



Derry City & Strabane  
District Council  
Comhairle  
Chathair Dhoire &  
Cheantar an tSraitha Báin  
Derry Cittie & Strabane  
Destrict Cooncil

Ref: FOI / 2011

13 September 2018

Mr  
BBC  
Floor 6, 4 Millbank  
London  
SW1P

Email: @bbc.co.uk

Dear Mr

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Consultancy spending 2013-25.07.18**

I refer to your FOI request above and apologise for our short delay.

#### **Request:**

- 1) Please state the amount your local authority spent on consultants and consultancy fees in each of the following financial years:
- 2) Please provide a breakdown of your spend on consultants by the company that provided the consultancy for each of the following financial years:
- 3) Please provide a breakdown of your spend on consultants by council department for each of the following financial years:
- 4) Please provide a breakdown of your spend on consultants by project or reason for spend in each of the following financial years:

#### **Response:**

I can advise that Derry City & Strabane District Council holds the requested information. You may be aware however Derry City and Strabane District Council was formed under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 effective 1 April 2015 and replaces the former councils of Strabane District Council and Derry City Council. Subsequently, records from the legally extant Councils while held, are held in different locations, servers, systems and software packages.

#### **Derry**

C/o Council Offices  
98 Strand Road  
Derry  
BT48 7NN

#### **Strabane**

C/o Council Offices  
47 Derry Road  
Strabane  
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253  
info@derrystrabane.com  
www.derrystrabane.com

f Derry City & Strabane District Council  
@dcsdcouncil

As you are aware, Section 12(1) of the FOIA contains a provision, which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. For local authorities, this limit is set at £450 - The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 SI 2004 No 3244 refers.

Council had identified for reasons outlined above ie Records of the 2 extant legal entities are held in different locations, servers, software and processes that it will take in excess of the 18 hour limit to search the records and therefore is unable to progress your request for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 " Council have a duty to advise and assist" as outlined above, Council notes that you are seeking access to records for 2 legal entities which no longer exist however we are able to respond to your questions on the information readily available from 2015 and attach as requested. Personal names have been redacted in keeping with section 40(2) of the FOIA and current Data Protection legislation.

Individuals are free to use any information supplied, where the Council is the copyright owner of the information, for their own use, including for non-commercial research purposes. The information may also be used for the purposes of news reporting. However, any other type of re-use, such as: copying, publishing, distributing and transmitting the Information; adapting the Information; exploiting the Information commercially for example, by combining it with other Information, or by including it in your own commercial product or application, will be subject to the copyright and re-use conditions under the Open Government Licence, details of which are available at: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>

If you are dissatisfied with our response you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie  
Chief Executive  
Derry City and Strabane District Council  
98 Strand Road  
Derry BT48 7NN Tel 028 71253253 or email [john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com](mailto:john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com)

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:



**Derry**

C/o Council Offices  
98 Strand Road  
Derry  
BT48 7NN

**Strabane**

C/o Council Offices  
47 Derry Road  
Strabane  
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253  
[info@derrystrabane.com](mailto:info@derrystrabane.com)  
[www.derrystrabane.com](http://www.derrystrabane.com)

 Derry City & Strabane District Council  
 @dcsdcouncil

Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

CHESHIRE SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

I would advise however, the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

**Lead Finance Officer**



**Derry**

C/o Council Offices  
98 Strand Road  
Derry  
BT48 7NN

**Strabane**

C/o Council Offices  
47 Derry Road  
Strabane  
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253  
[info@derrystrabane.com](mailto:info@derrystrabane.com)  
[www.derrystrabane.com](http://www.derrystrabane.com)

 Derry City & Strabane District Council  
 @dcsdcouncil