

PBNI Disclosure Log – Response to Request

Request Reference: 023.06.16
Date of Request: 3 March 2016
Date of Response: 1 April 2016

Request

Under FOI please provide the following information:

The top 20 in terms of total money claimed from PBNI staff Travel and Subsistence for the Time Period Jan 2015 to Jan 2016.

Should this request exceed the amount of time/money allocated per task then I would like the top 10 PBNI staff claims for Travel and Subsistence.

I would obviously expect you to protect staff names but I would like to see their Job Title/Position and Department/Section within the organisation.

JOB TITLE/POSITION Department/Section TOTAL CLAIMED between Jan 2015 - Jan 2016

1.
2.
Etc

Response

Please find attached at [Appendix 1](#), the information we are able to provide you with under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

I would clarify at the outset that any payments made, reflect the allowances permitted under the respective staff's conditions of service.

As explained in my acknowledgement, PBNI has a duty to be mindful, when disclosing information under FOIA, that it does not breach an individual's data protection rights.

Having reviewed the relevant information, in accordance with Section 17 (1) of the FOIA, PBNI is refusing to provide the specific information in respect of amount claimed, where there are 5 or less full time equivalent (FTE) staff, of the same grade, working in a particular department/location.

We consider this information to be exempt under Section 40 (2) (a) (b) of the FOIA by virtue of Section 40 (3) (a) (i) of the FOIA i.e. Information is exempt if it constitutes personal data and disclosure would breach any of the Data Protection Principles.

PBNI believes that given the small number of staff in question, it may be possible to identify these individuals which would breach the first data protection principle i.e. Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully. Personal information is defined in the Data Protection Act (s1) as data which relate to a living individual who can be identified

- (a) from those data, or
- (b) from those data and other information which is in the possession of, or is likely to come into the possession of, the data controller.

If this information is disclosed, we consider that there is a high risk that individuals may be identified either from other information already in the public domain or known by individuals, such as other PBNI employees. This would breach these individuals' data protection rights and also their right to privacy under Article 8 of the Human Rights Act.

If you have any queries about this letter, or if you feel I have misinterpreted your request please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way PBNI has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review using our complaints procedure. A copy of our [complaints procedure](#) is available on our website www.pbni.org.uk. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

Please note that PBNI publishes responses to requests for information on its website where we believe there may be a wider public interest. If requests are published they are anonymised i.e. details of the requester are not published.

ADDENDUM

As a result of the requester making a complaint on 5 April 2016 regarding PBNI's response to this request, PBNI responded on the 26 April 2016 providing the total figure claimed for the top 20 claimants which was **£71,283**.