

FOI/16/53

Title: meetings with Prince of Wales

Response to an FOI requesting information about meetings with Prince of Wales

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/53 dated April 2016

FOI/16/56

Title: PII applications 2013 - 2016

Response to an FOI requesting information about PII applications 2013 - 2016

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/56 dated May 2016

FOI/16/58

Title: What contingency plans did NIO undertake for UK voting to leave EU

Response to an FOI requesting information about any contingency plans NIO undertaken for UK voting to leave EU

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/58 dated July 2016

FOI/16/59

Title: departmental spend on external law firms

Response to an FOI requesting information about departmental spend on external law firms

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/59 dated May 2016

FOI/16/60

Title: what preparatory work has department undertaken in relation EU referendum

Response to an FOI requesting information on what preparatory work has department undertaken in relation EU referendum

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/60 dated June 2016

FOI/16/61

Title: Private Finance Initiative contracts

Response to an FOI requesting information about Private Finance Initiative contracts

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/61 dated May 2016

FOI/16/65

Title: policies relating to Duty Minister procedures

Response to an FOI requesting information about policies relating to Duty Minister procedures

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/65 dated June 2016

FOI/16/67

Title: average age of staff in Northern Ireland Office

Response to an FOI requesting information about the average age of staff in Northern Ireland Office

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/67 dated May 2016

FOI/16/68

Title: Does department block the use of cloud apps not officially purchased

Response to an FOI requesting information about whether the department blocks the use of cloud apps not officially purchased

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/68 dated June 2016

FOI/16/72

Title: departmental travel costs

Response to an FOI requesting information about departmental travel costs

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/72 dated July 2016

FOI/16/74

Title: departmental spend on Who's Who, Burke's Peerage and Debretts since 2010

Response to an FOI requesting information about departmental spend on Who's Who, Burke's Peerage and Debretts since 2010

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/74 dated June 2016

FOI/16/76

Title: staff campaigning for the EU referendum

Response to an FOI requesting information about staff campaigning for the EU referendum.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/77 dated July 2016

FOI/16/77

Title: cost of calls to 118, 0871, 0872, 0873, 090 up to June 2016

Response to an FOI requesting information about the cost of calls to 118, 0871, 0872, 0873, 090 up to June 2016

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/79 dated July 2016

FOI/16/78

Title: NIO communication in relation to smoking control and cessation over last 2 years

Response to an FOI requesting information about NIO communication in relation to smoking control and cessation over last 2 years

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/78 dated July 2016

FOI/16/79

Title: Banking Services

Response to an FOI requesting information about Banking Services

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/79 dated July 2016

FOI/16/82

Title: Northern Ireland contribution to UK payment to EU

Response to an FOI requesting information about the Northern Ireland contribution to UK payment to EU

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/82 dated July 20



Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/53

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

1...Can you please provide a list of occasions since 30 March 2015 to the present day when the Prince of Wales has met with the Secretary of State and or any Minister from the department and or one of the department's senior civil servants. In the case of each meeting can you identify the Secretary of State and or Minister and or civil servant. In the case of each meeting can you provide a date, time and venue. In the case of each meeting can you please provide a brief description of the topics under discussion. In the case of each meeting can you provide a full list of those present. In the case of each meeting can you please provide any documentation held by the department which relates specifically to the arrangements for the meeting and the topics under discussion.

2...Is any employee of the Prince of Wales and or his private office and or the Duchy of Cornwall currently on secondment to the department. If the answer is yes can you please state how many employees are currently on secondment. Could you please identify the relevant individuals and provide an explanation of their duties. In the case of each individual can you please state for how long they have been on secondment to the department.

3...Is any other employee of the Royal Household currently on secondment to the department. If so can you please provide the details outlined in question two.

4...Is any departmental civil servant and or representative currently on secondment to Buckingham Palace and or St James Palace and or Clarence House and or the Royal Household. If so can you please state the number of civil servants who are currently on secondment. Can you also identify the civil servant (s) and or representative (s) Can you specify where they are currently working. Can you please provide a brief description of the purpose of their secondment.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).



Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

1. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland met HRH The Prince of Wales on Thursday 21 May 2015 at 2.30pm in Hillsborough Castle.. There were no civil servants from this department present and there is no further information held.
2. There are no employees of the Prince of Wales and or his private office and or the Duchy of Cornwall currently on secondment to the Northern Ireland Office.
3. There is no other employee of the Royal Household currently on secondment to the Northern Ireland Office.
4. No members of staff or representatives of the Northern Ireland Office are currently on secondment to Buckingham Palace and or St James Palace and or Clarence House and or the Royal Household.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

May 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/56

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I would like to request the number of Public Interest Immunity applications approved by any NIO Minister from 2013 - 2016.

The question has been taken as seeking the number of cases in which Public Interest Immunity (PII) applications have been approved between 2013 and 2016. PII applications have been approved in 25 cases during this period. In some cases more than one PII certificate has been signed.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

July 2016

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/58

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I would like to know, under the Freedom of Information Act, what contingency planning the Northern Ireland Office has undertaken for the UK voting to leave the EU on June 23 in the referendum? In particular I would like to know:

- a) Has the department undertaken any planning for the scenario that Britain votes to leave the EU?**
- b) Has the department drawn up the likely cost or benefit to the department of Britain leaving the EU? What is the overall calculated cost/benefit, and what is the breakdown of any costs/benefits that contribute to that net total?**
- c) How many full-time equivalent staff, or how many staff hours, have been spent by the department in planning for the scenario that Britain votes to leave the EU?**

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The Department did not undertake any planning regarding the possibility that the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU in advance of the referendum.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

May 2016

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/59

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I understand that you were unable to answer my original request as it would have exceeded the cost limit to compile the information needed.

Would it instead be possible to provide me an estimate of the following to answer my question?

The amount of money your department spent on the services of external law firms and barristers over each of the last five years (years ending March 31). If this is not possible within the restrictions of the Freedom of Information Act, three years of data will suffice. If this is not possible, two years of data are acceptable.

Please exclude legal services provided by the Government Legal Department. However, please include legal services that the Government Legal Department has outsourced to a third party.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

The NIO does not hold any information that falls within the scope of your request. When the Department (the NIO) requires legal advice, it is provided from internal Government sources via the Government Legal Department or the Crown Solicitors Office for legal matters arising in Northern Ireland. We do not hold information on legal services outsourced by these bodies.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

June 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/60

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

- 1. What preparatory work has your Department (including arms-length bodies) undertaken in order to understand how its' remit and operations could be affected if the UK voted to leave the EU?**
- 2. Please could you confirm whether your Department (including arms-length bodies) has delayed any decisions on policy matters, major projects or procurements until after the results of the EU referendum? If yes, please say which.**
- 3. If the UK voted to leave the EU, please indicate whether your Department (including arms-length bodies) would be likely to experience any of the following over the next 2 -3 years as a direct or indirect result:**
 - A change in the remit or duties of your organisation
 - Major projects or procurements subject to uncertainty, cancellation or delayed decision-making
 - Need to help client group(s) understand the implications of EU exit for them
 - Need for increased budget to deal with additional workload related to EU renegotiation and exit
 - Need for extra staff to deal with additional workload related to EU renegotiation and exit
 - Need to change IT systems or implement new ones
 - Need to review suppliers or supplier contracts

The Department holds no information in relation to your request. However the Government has already published some information which is relevant to your third question in the document 'The Process for Withdrawing from the European Union', which is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-process-for-withdrawing-from-the-european-union>. The Treasury has also set out its economic analysis of the long-term impact of these potential models in its publication 'HM Treasury Analysis: the Long Term Economic Impact of EU memberships and the Alternatives', which can be found at



<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hm-treasury-analysis-the-long-term-economic-impact-of-eu-membership-and-the-alternatives>





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

2 August 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/61

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I am writing to you as part of a request for information on the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contracts held by all public authorities. In general, I am hoping to use this data to make meaningful comparisons on the land involved in different PFI sectors and across PFI schemes. I am also hoping to understand better patterns of PFI contract monitoring and enforcement through my request for information on deductions and disputes.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

The NIO does not hold any information that falls within the scope of your request.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

[@niopressoffice](http://www.gov.uk/nio)

June 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/65

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

Please give details of policies, procedures, rotas and so on relating to your Duty Minister procedure.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We do not hold any information within the scope of your request in respect of policies, procedures or rotas relating to current Ministers.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

May 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/67

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

Please provide the average age of staff members employed by your central department.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The average age of staff employed by the Northern Ireland Office is 44.1 years. This excludes staff seconded from the Northern Ireland Civil Service for whom we do not hold this data.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

3 August 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/68

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

- 1. Do you block the use of cloud apps not officially purchased or sanctioned by your department's IT team? (Cloud apps are apps such as Dropbox, Box, Google Drive, iCloud, WeTransfer, etc, which operate in the cloud and therefore do not necessarily need to be downloaded to a PC/laptop/mobile device to be used.)**
- 2. How many cloud apps are in use by employees in your department? Please include both those apps purchased or sanctioned by IT, and unsanctioned apps i.e. used by employees without IT's permission. If you do not know whether/how many unsanctioned apps are in use, please state this and provide the number of sanctioned/authorised cloud apps.)**
- 3. Do you monitor cloud app use by employees in either sanctioned or unsanctioned apps, for example by monitoring what data are uploaded and/or shared using cloud apps?**

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The Northern Ireland Office receives managed ICT services from IT Assist, which is a service provided by Enterprise Shared Services, a body within the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland. The information requested is, therefore, not held by this Department. This information may be available from the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland who can be contacted at info.csd@dfpni.gov.uk





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niooffice](https://twitter.com/niooffice)

July 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/72

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I understand that records may be kept in hard to access formats. I would be happy to receive the data aggregated without the breakdown of modes of transport. I would appreciate an estimation of the break down if anyone in the organisation is familiar with the numbers.

Could I receive an answer to the questions 1-4 in my request?

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

The information supplied below relates to the financial year 2015-16.

1. How much was spent in 2015 by the department on travel costs for all staff, Ministers, Directors and political appointees broken down by road, rail and air?

Total Travel £ 489,113.03

2. How much was spent in 2015 by the department on accommodation for all staff, Ministers, Directors and political appointees broken down by domestic and foreign expenditure?

Domestic Travel £ 452,922.82

Foreign Travel £ 36,190.21

3. Does the department use the services of a travel management company to minimise these costs to the taxpayer?

Yes.





4. If yes to question 3, which travel management company does the department use currently?

The Department uses Redfern Travel and Knock Travel.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

June 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/74

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

How much your Department had spent on the publications (a) Who's Who, (b) Burke's Peerage and (c) Debrett's in each year since 2010.

Thank you for providing further clarification, I can confirm that the Northern Ireland Office has spent £1,250 on Who's Who publications since 2010. There has been no expenditure in respect of Burke's Peerage or Debrett's.





Northern
Ireland
Office

**Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team**
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/nioPressOffice)

July 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/76

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

a) Whether any civil servants in the Cabinet Office have been disciplined as a result of participating in campaigning for the EU referendum either because their job falls into the ‘politically restricted’ category, or because they have not sought permission from the department? If so, how many and, if possible, please can you provide some background explaining what happened in each case where a civil servant was disciplined?

b) How many civil servants in the department have actively sought permission to campaign for either side during the EU referendum? Please could you provide details stating what side they sought permission to campaign for and whether or not their request was accepted.

c) How many civil servants has the department actively given advice to – outside of the guidance published in the civil service management code on the internet – on the rules regarding their ability to campaign for either side during the EU referendum?

If FOI requests of a similar nature have already been asked could you also please include your responses to those requests.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)





- a) We do not hold any information in respect of Cabinet Office employees, however, no Northern Ireland Office staff have been disciplined as a result of participating in campaigning for the EU referendum either because their job falls into the 'politically restricted' category, or because they have not sought permission from the department.

- b) We do not hold any information within the scope of this request.

- c) We do not hold any information within the scope of this request.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

3 August 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/77

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please could you provide me with the following:

1. The total number of calls made to 118 numbers over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.
2. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to numbers beginning with "0871", "0872", "0873" and "090" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.
3. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to "118 118" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.
4. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to "118 500" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.
5. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to "118 111" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.
6. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to "09020442408" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.



7. Please could you also provide a figure for the number of calls made to "6442408" over the past three years up to and including June 2016. Please could you break this down year by year. Please could you provide a figure, in pounds sterling, for how much these calls cost. Please could this also be broken down by year.

If there is any guidance issued to staff on what numbers they can/cannot call, please can you provide this. Likewise, if there is a list of barred numbers, please could you provide this.

If FOI requests of a similar nature have already been asked could you also please include your responses to those requests.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The Northern Ireland Office receives managed ICT services including telephony from IT Assist, which is a service provided by Enterprise Shared Services, a body within the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland. The information requested is, therefore, not held by this Department. This information may be available from the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland who can be contacted at info.csd@dfpni.gov.uk



Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

July 2106

T 028 90765431
E foi@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

Our Ref: 16/78

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

A list of all bodies that NIO has communicated with in the matter of smoking control and smoking cessation over the last 2 years.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I can confirm that the department holds information falling within the scope of your request.

Results from electronic searches using the terms 'smoke', 'smoking', 'cigarette' and 'cigarettes' show that in 2015 the Northern Ireland Office met with the company JTI, in Ballymena, Northern Ireland. Following that meeting the department shared JTI's views on minimum excise tax, unitary pricing for tobacco products and standardised packaging for cigarettes with the relevant government departments, namely HM Treasury and the Department for Health.





Northern
Ireland
Office

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

July 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/79

You request the release of the following information from the Northern Ireland Office (NIO);

I would like to request information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Could you please send me contract information relating to Banking Services, Audit Services and Card Processing Services. If you do not understand what each of these mean please see below:

- **Banking Services** - contract information relating to the organisation banking services.
 - **Audit Services (Financial)** – contract relating to internal and external audit services.
 - **Accountancy** – Contracts relating to TAX advisory services.
 - **Card Processing Services** This is a contract the organisation may have that relates to the use debit/credit cards used by staff to make payments to suppliers. This also includes procurement cards.
 - **Merchant services** This is a contract where by people make payments to the organisation via a machine or terminal. This also includes machines that have chip and pin and contact less
1. **Contract Category:** Please see select from the categories provided; Banking Services; Financial Audit Services; Card Processing Services
 2. **Existing Supplier** Name for each contract
 3. **Contract Description:** Please do not just state two to three words can you please provide me detail information about this contract and please state if upgrade, maintenance and support is included. Please also include the modules included within the contract.
 4. **Annual Average Spend** for each contract
 5. **Contract Duration:** What is the duration of the contract please include any available extensions within the contract.
 6. **Contract Start Date:** What is the start date of this contract? Please include month and year of the contract. DD-MM-YY or MM-YY.
 7. **Contract Expiry:** What is the expiry date of this contract? Please include month and year of the contract. DD-MM-YY or MM-YY.

8. **Contract Review Date:** What is the review date of this contract? Please include month and year of the contract. If this cannot be provided, please provide me estimates of when the contract is likely to be reviewed. DD-MM-YY or MM-YY

9. **Contact Details:** I require the full contact details of the person within the organisation responsible for this particular contract.

10. **Notes:** Please provide me with any further information with regards to this contract this could include any contract extension available as well as information on renewals or plans for future tenders.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

The Northern Ireland Office does not have any contracts relating to Banking Services, Audit Services and Card Processing Services.



Northern
Ireland
Office

**Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team**
Stormont House
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SH

T 028 9076 5431
E foi@nio.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/nio
[@niopressoffice](https://twitter.com/niopressoffice)

July 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/82

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I'm looking the monetary figure breakdown of the contribution on a yearly basis of how much Northern Ireland contributes to the overall UK payment to the European Union.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

The NIO does not hold any information that falls within the scope of your request.

