



NIO

Freedom of Information Team

Northern Ireland Office
Freedom of Information Team
11 Millbank
London SW1P 4PN

Telephone 020 7210 0840
Email: foi@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk

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Thank you for your email in which you requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office (NIO):

Many thanks for your response in which you decline my request for information regarding the reasons for extending Excess Fares Allowance (EFA) beyond the normal three year limit.

In your letter you explain that since the request covers only 10 employees of the NIO it could lead to the identification of the individuals. I therefore request that the reasons for the extensions of their EFA are supplied in a manner that would prevent this.

A table form of general reasons would suffice in which the number of employees that fell into the category could be listed. This would as I am sure you would agree not identify the individuals. For example if a member or members of staff had their EFA extended as the costs associated with a transfer at the public expense would have proved more expensive then this could be given. Again by way of example, if a member of staff or members, had their EFA extended as they were on maternity leave for an extensive period of the original three years, this too could be listed.

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

I can confirm that the department holds information within the scope of your request. I am pleased to be able to provide this information to you in an alternate format that does not associate the individual circumstances of an extension with an individual.

I have provided the reasons for the extension of the Excess Fares Allowance (EFA) beyond 3 years below:

- Employee transferred internally to a new post during 3 year period of original claim and was eligible for EFA as a result of new transfer.

- Employee transferred on a temporary basis to another post during 3 year period of original claim. On return to their original post the EFA period was extended to take account of temporary transfer.

- The excess fares paid did not exceed the amount that would have been paid if the employee had opted for the Assisted Home Removal Scheme.