

FOI/16/92

Title: male and female pay information

Response to an FOI requesting details of male and female pay information.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/92 dated August 2016

FOI/16/94

Title: gifts given to ministers and subsequently auctioned

Response to an FOI requesting information about gifts given to ministers and subsequently auctioned

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/94 dated September 2016

FOI/16/99

Title: special advisor severance pay

Response to an FOI requesting information about special advisor severance pay

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/99 dated September 2016

FOI/16/101

Title: letter from S Heaney to P Hain

Response to an FOI requesting information about a letter from S Heaney to P Hain.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/101 dated September 2016

FOI/16/102

Title: Sir John Hermon Inquiry into circumstances surrounding murder of Constable Coulter in 1981.

Response to an FOI requesting information about the Sir John Hermon Inquiry into circumstances surrounding murder of Constable Coulter in 1981

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/102 dated September 2016

FOI/16/106

Title: printer information

Response to an FOI requesting information about departmental printers.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/106 dated October 2016

FOI/16/112

Title: IT losses since May 2015

Response to an FOI requesting information about IT losses since May 2015.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/112 dated October 2016

FOI/16/113

Title: landline provider

Response to FOI requesting information about the departments landline provider

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/113 dated October 2016

FOI/16/114

Title: department spend on hotels or spas for staff development 2014 15

Response to an FOI requesting information about any department spend on hotels or spas for staff development during 2014 2015.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/114 dated October 2016

FOI/16/115

Title: department spend on office leases

Response to an FOI requesting information about department spend on office leases.

Detail: Reply to Freedom of Information request FOI/16/115 dated October 2016



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15 August 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/92

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

Please provide figures for full-time equivalised annual basic salaries in response to the questions below:

* Please disclose the mean earnings for male employees and the mean earnings for female employees for the most recent year for which you have figures and please state the dates to which it refers;

* Please disclose the median earnings for male employees and the median earnings for female employees for the most recent year for which you have figures and please state the dates to which it refers;

* Please disclose the number of male employees by quartile salary bands and the number of female employees by quartile salary bands.

* If within the limits allowable under the FOIA, please also provide the respective figures for questions 1-3 for the preceding 12 month period, and state the end date.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). The information provided relates only to Home Civil Servants employed by the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) and excludes staff seconded to the NIO from the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) who remain on NICS terms and conditions, including pay.

1. The mean earnings for male employees for the financial year 2015-16 were £42, 406 and £32, 252 for female employees.
2. The median earnings for male employees for the financial year 2015-16 were £32, 739 and £28, 261 for female employees.
3. The number of male employees by quartile bands is as follows:



- First quartile - £0-£27,555 = 12
- Second quartile - £28,448-£34,192 = 11
- Third quartile - £35,188-£50,534 = 11
- Fourth quartile - £51,040-£158,669 = 11

The number of female employees by quartile bands is as follows:

- First quartile - £0-£24,727 = 14
- Second quartile - £24,728-£28,000 = 15
- Third quartile - £28,001-£35,884 = 15
- Fourth quartile - £35,885-£78,597 = 14

4. The mean earnings for male employees for the financial year 2014-15 were £41, 268 and £31, 395 for female employees.
5. The median earnings for male employees for the financial year 2014-15 were £31, 939 and £28, 000 for female employees.
6. The number of male employees by quartile bands is as follows:
 - First quartile - £0-£27,555 = 12
 - Second quartile - £27,556-£31,921 = 11
 - Third quartile - £31,922-£42,915 = 11
 - Fourth quartile - £42,916-£157,098 = 11

The number of female employees by quartile bands is as follows:

- First quartile - £0-£24,239 = 14
- Second quartile - £24,240-£27,300 = 14
- Third quartile - £27,301-£32,971 = 15
- Fourth quartile - £32,973-£78,597 = 17





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11 November 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/94

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

1. The following details of all gifts received by the department, its ministers and secretary of state subsequently been sold at auction between 1 January 2011 to 9 August 2016 inclusive:

- **A brief description of the gift;**
- **The date the gift was received;**
- **From whom the gift was received;**
- **The date the gift was sold at auction;**
- **The price the gift gained at auction;**
- **The auction house at which the gift was sold.**

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

The Northern Ireland Office has not sold any gifts at auction, which were given to the Secretary of State or the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the timeframe you requested.





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19 September 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/99

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

Were the Department's former Special Advisers, who had been reappointed after the 2015 General Election and left Government in or after July this year, awarded six months' severance pay as part of their severance package?

What were the terms of the severance package for Special Advisers appointed after the 2015 General Election?

Did these terms for such individuals change? If so, how?

What was the proposed total cost of the severance package for Special Advisers before the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron?

What was the proposed total cost of the severance package for Special Advisers after the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron?

Has the department agreed to offer Special Advisers a severance package which has a value over and above their contractual entitlement? If so, what are the respective financial totals?

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

The terms under which special advisers may recover severance payments are set out in the Model Contract for special advisers.

In July this year the then Prime Minister decided that certain special advisers should be awarded a higher amount of severance pay than their contracts provided for.



The Permanent Secretary of the Cabinet Office asked the then Prime Minister for a formal Ministerial Direction to make the payments, which was forthcoming. The correspondence between the Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary and the Cabinet Office Permanent Secretary can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/special-advisers-severance-pay>.

The decision was taken before Mr Cameron left the office of Prime Minister.

The process for Ministerial Directions is set out in HM Treasury's policy guidance entitled "Managing Public Money" www.gov.uk/government/publications/managing-public-money

Details of government special advisers, including costs, are published annually. The last list was published in December 2015 and can be assessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/special-adviser-data-releases-number-and-costs-december-2015>

The NIO's Special Advisor remained in post after the election so there will be no severance costs for the NIO shown in the next publication.





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11 November 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/101

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

I wish to make this information request under EIR regulations in relation to my earlier request

- 1. Has the letter and reply been: Lost? Misaid?**
- 2. Does the Public Records Act (Northern Ireland) 1923 apply here? If not what legislation applies to the NIO for this type of request.**
- 3. Has the letter and reply been destroyed? Did the NIO keep a record of when it was destroyed? What category of filing was it kept in? Can you please supply these details**
- 4. Is there a copy held in the Inquiry record of the Department's files?**

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

Under Section 1(1) of the FOI Act the requester is entitled to be informed in writing whether we hold information of the description specified in the request, and if we do have that information, to communicate it to the requester.

The retention and disposal of correspondence, like all other records in the Northern Ireland Office is governed by departmental records disposal schedules that are framed on the basis of guidance from The National Archives. All departmental recordkeeping is compliant with the Public Records Act (1957). Ministerial correspondence is normally retained for two years only.

Correspondence relating to particular subjects may be referred to policy divisions of the department or to Northern Ireland departments which have their own records retention schedules. Northern Ireland departments are subject to the Public Records Act (Northern Ireland) 1923.

We have no record of receiving the letter that you refer to in your request, however if a letter that related to Northern Ireland roads and planning had been received, the normal process would be to refer it to the relevant Northern Ireland department. The Department for Infrastructure would now be responsible for roads and may hold the information that you are requesting. They can be contacted at dcu@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk





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30 September 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/102

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

We want the findings of the Sir John Hermon directed inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the murder of constable Coulter in 1981. The PSNI say they have no records at all in relation to same other than retention of the criminal investigation /prosecution file. The PSNI have directed us to you.

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

NIO files from 1981 have already been transferred to The National Archives (TNA) under the transfer programme for public records. These files can be accessed via The National Archives online catalogue Discovery (<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>). You may also wish to contact the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland who also holds some NIO files from this period.





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07 October 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/106

Thank you for your email dated 9 September 2016 in which you requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

1. How many printers does your department have?
2. How many printer toners or cartridges are currently being stored on-site stored within your department office? Please state if you do not know.
3. How often does your department office re-order printer toners or cartridges? If you do not know the exact time frame, please specify if it is:
 - a) daily
 - b) weekly
 - c) fortnightly
 - d) monthly
 - e) less than once per month
 - f) I don't know
4. How much does your department you spend each month on printer toners and cartridges? If you do not know the exact cost, please specify which bracket the cost falls under:
 - a) less than £100
 - b) £100 - £250
 - c) £250 - £500
 - d) £500 - £1,000
 - e) more than £1,000
 - f) I don't know



The Department has recently changed its printing solution; older devices awaiting collection for disposal have been excluded from the answer along with any associated toners and cartridges.

In relation to Question One, There are 8 Multi-function devices and 5 separate printers.

In relation to Question Two, we currently hold 2 spare print cartridges.

In relation to Question Three, it is not known how often toners and cartridges are ordered due to an automated system for ordering.

In relation to Question Four, the costs of printing will fall into the £250-£500 bracket.

20 October 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/112

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

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

- 1) How many laptops/ PCs have been lost or stolen from your department since May 2015?
- 2) How many of those contained confidential or sensitive information?
- 3) How many computer discs/ USB memory sticks or flash drives have been lost or stolen from your department since May 2015?
- 4) How many of those contained confidential or sensitive information?

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

In relation to Q1 and Q2 there have been no laptops or PCs reported lost or stolen since May 2015. You may wish to note that this information is published in our annual report and accounts the latest version of which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nio-annual-report-and-accounts-2015-16>

In relation to Q3 and Q4, the Northern Ireland Office receives ICT services from IT Assist (ITA), 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.



20 October 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16 113

You requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

Who provides landline telephones to the NIO in both London and Northern Ireland?

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

The Northern Ireland Office receives managed landline telephone services in London from Level 3 and from IT Assist (ITA) in Belfast, which is a service provided by Enterprise Shared Services, a body within the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland.





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Our Reference: FOI – 16/114

20 October 2016

You asked for the following information from the Northern Ireland Office (NIO):

Please provide me a list of all expenditure by your department on hotels, spas or venues with similar/equivalent facilities during the financial year 14/15 relating to team/staff off-site day and/or team/staff training and personal development etc.

Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure giving i) a description of the expenditure including the purpose of the event/day/activity ii) a summary of the number and type of participants ie 5 managers from Team X etc iii) the net cost iv) the date v) the name and address of the hotel/spa concerned vi) the name of the provider/supplier.

Please provide me a list of all expenditure by your department on hotels and/or spas during the financial year 15/16 relating to team/staff off-site day and/or team/staff training and personal development etc.

Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure giving i) a description of the expenditure including the purpose of the event or activity ii) a summary of the number and type of participants ie 5 managers from Team X etc iii) the net cost iv) the date v) the name and address of the hotel/spa concerned vi) the name of the provider/supplier.

If it is not possible to provide all the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under your Section 16 obligations, as to how I can refine my request to be included in the scope of the Act. In any case, if you can identify ways that my request could be refined please provide further advice and assistance to indicate this. I would like this information on email please.

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

I can confirm that the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) has not incurred any such expenditure in the periods requested and therefore does not hold the information that you have requested. To establish whether the information was held I conducted a thorough search, and made enquires with all business areas within the Department.

24 October 2016

REFERENCE: FOI – 16/115

Thank you for your email dated 26 September 2016 in which you requested the following information from the Northern Ireland Office:

1) Please state how much your authority spent on leases for offices and other premises used by employees of your authority in the following financial years.

- i) 2013/14**
- ii) 2014/15**
- iii) 2015/16**

2) Please break this figure down by the amount spent on each property stating:

- i) The name and address of the building**
- ii) The total annual spend on the lease in each financial year requested**
- iii) The lease type (PFI, private rental etc.)**

Please include properties leased under PFI agreements.

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

In relation to Question One parts (i), (ii), and (iii):

2013/14	£ 948,780
2014/15	£ 939,990
2015/16	£ 950,990



In relation to Question Two Part (i) there are two properties in question: - One Horse Guards Road, London and Stormont House, Belfast.

Horse Guards Road, London

2013/14	£ 859,630
2014/15	£ 850,840
2015/16	£ 861,840

Stormont House, Belfast

2013/14	£ 89,150
2014/15	£ 89,150
2015/16	£ 89,150

In relation to Question Two Part (iii) both buildings are leased on a private rental basis.

