

FOI Reference Number: FOI/122/1819

Date: 2nd July 2018

Request:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to obtain information about your organisation's trade union facility time spending in 2017-18.

Please include the following information:

- Total number (absolute number and full time equivalent) of staff who are union representatives (including general, learning and health and safety representatives)
- Total number (absolute number and full time equivalent) of union representatives who devote at least 50 per cent of their time to union duties
- Names of all trade unions represented in the local authority
- A basic estimate of spending on unions (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties by authority staff that spent the majority of their time on union duties multiplied by the average salary)
- A basic estimate of spending on unions as a percentage of the total pay bill (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties by authority staff that spent the majority of their time on union duties multiplied by the average salary divided by the total pay bill).

If you are unable to answer one of the questions, please continue and answer the subsequent ones.

My preferred format to receive this information is electronically, but if that is not possible I will gladly accept letters at the address below.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this request as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 20th June 2018.

Please find below, in red, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to our trade union facility time spending in 2017-18.

- Total number (absolute number and full time equivalent) of staff who are union representatives (including general, learning and health and safety representatives) - **18**
- Total number (absolute number and full time equivalent) of union representatives who devote at least 50 per cent of their time to union duties - **0**
- Names of all trade unions represented in the local authority - **GMB, NIPSA, UNITE, UNISON**
- A basic estimate of spending on unions (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties by authority staff that spent the majority of their time on union duties multiplied by the average salary). - **This information is not available as we do not record or calculate how much trade union time is taken.**
- A basic estimate of spending on unions as a percentage of the total pay bill (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties by authority staff that spent the majority of their time on union duties multiplied by the average salary divided by the total pay bill). - **This information is not available as we do not record or calculate how much trade union time is taken.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/122/1819 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an 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 be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeastantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, any personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.