

**FOI Reference Number:** FOI/143/1920

**Date:** 19 August 2019

**Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following:

1. A full total and breakdown of money spent by this council/authority supporting and/or endorsing LGBT+ foundations/causes/awareness/charities/training days in the past five financial years.
2. A specification of any relevant LGBT+ events or training (dates/where they were held/who money was paid to) within that time period.
3. A full total and breakdown of money spent on LGBT+ paraphernalia by the council in the past five financial years.

**Response:**

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 18 July 2019.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to LGBT+ spending/events/training.

***1. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have had no specific spend on supporting and/or endorsing LGBT+ foundations/causes/awareness/charities/training days in the past five financial years.***

***Please note however, we have received one grant application from Larne Pride Diversity And Inclusion for a Pride Festival in Larne on Saturday 17 August 2019. This was approved by Council up to a value of £2,500 on 8 August 2019 but has not yet been paid.***

***2. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have had no specific LGBT+ events or training in the past five financial years.***

***Although not a specific LGBT+ event, Council launched the "No Hate Here" project in Ballymena in March 2018 and subsequently in Larne and Carrickfergus in March 2019. This was a joint initiative with the Inter Ethnic Forum, the PSNI and Council to encourage the reporting of hate related crimes including those against the LGBT+ community. The project included training around responding to reports of hate related crime and also a poster awareness campaign.***

***3. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have had no specific spend on LGBT+ paraphernalia in the past five financial years.***

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/143/1920 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.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

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