

FOI Reference Number: FOI/155/1819

Date: 01 August 2018

Request:

Could I please have the following information relating to the Scheme of Emergency Financial Assistance to District Councils in the Event of Flooding and any predecessor schemes

From 2010

What funding under this or similar schemes relating to flooding was drawn down by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council or previously Ballymena Borough Council?

What expenditure was incurred by Council in each of the financial years from 2010 to 2018

What geographic areas were affected by floods in each year

How many household claims were submitted in each year

How many household claims were paid out in each year

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 02 July 2018.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to flooding

1. What funding under this or similar schemes relating to flooding was drawn down by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council or previously Ballymena Borough Council?

Article 26 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 makes provision for a scheme of emergency financial assistance to district council in any case where an emergency or disaster occurs involving destruction of or danger to life or property. The Department of Environment established a scheme under this Article for the giving of financial assistance to those councils in respect of that expenditure. The Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) approved 'Guidance Notes for Applications for Schemes of Emergency Financial Assistance to District Councils' in August 2004. Since then, Ballymena Borough Council and Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have operated the scheme where necessary.

At present, the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Communities has determined that he shall make emergency funds available to cover council costs incurred when responding to the needs of householders across Northern Ireland in the event of any flooding following rainfall or tidal surge, from 1 June 2018 until 31 August 2018. The Permanent Secretary has activated this Scheme of Emergency Financial Assistance to District Councils which includes an immediate payment of £1,000 to householders as practical assistance to those who have suffered severe inconvenience, to help make homes habitable as quickly as possible.

2. What expenditure was incurred by Council in each of the financial years from 2010 to 2018?

2010	£0
2011	£2000
2012	£16,000
2013	£0
2014	£25,0000
2015	£0
2016	£2000
2017	£3000
2018	£0 (applications pending)

3. What geographic areas were affected by floods in each year?

2010	
2011	Ballymena
2012	Larne & Ballymena
2013	
2014	Ballymena (Harryville)
2015	
2016	Ballymena
2017	Ballymena
2018	Ballymena & Larne

Department of Infrastructure River have produced Flood Maps (NI) available to view from the below web-link:

<http://dfi-ni.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=fd6c0a01b07840269a50a2f596b3daf6>

4. How many household claims were submitted in each year?

2010	0
2011	2
2012	18
2013	1
2014	88
2015	3
2016	4
2017	8
2018	6 (31 st July 2018)

5. How many household claims were paid out in each year?

2010	0
2011	2
2012	16
2013	0
2014	25
2015	0
2016	2
2017	3
2018	0 (applications pending)

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/155/1819 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, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.