

**FOI Reference Number:** FOI/184/1819

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018

**Request:**

Please advise how much Ballymena United Football Club paid in rent per meeting for the hiring of the Showgrounds during the last football season.

Further to my initial request can I also ask for the rent value per match too for the hiring of the Showgrounds.

**Response:**

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018.

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

Part of the information you requested is exempt under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 'Commercial Interests' and is therefore withheld. Under Section 43 of the Act, a public authority is exempt from disclosing information where disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

Ballymena United Football Club are subject to a commercial lease at an annual cost which is paid monthly. If they book any additional time/space, this is paid at the going rate.

Council cannot disclose the costs or terms of the club's lease, nor how many additional usages they required as this information is commercially sensitive.

We can however, advise you as to the typical fees which are applicable to hire at Ballymena Showgrounds.

Main Arena Event Cost - £100  
Floodlight Charges - £54 per hour  
Main Arena Training - £40.55

Approx. stewarding costs of a match, Category B - £7.80 per hour x 3.5 hours x 16 stewards = £436.80.

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 FOI184/1819 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.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

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