

FOI Reference Number: FOI/200/1819

Date: 02 August 2018

Request:

I request disclosure of information under the terms of the freedom of information act. I understand you have 20 working days in which to reply. I would like to know the following:

1. What was the total number of football pitches (excluding those belonging to schools) which were sold by the council for redevelopment into a non-sports related purpose (eg housing) for the financial years:
 1. 2013/14
 2. 2014/15
 3. 2015/16
 4. 2016/17
 5. 2017/18
2. How many football pitches do you currently have for sale for redevelopment into a non-sports related purpose (eg housing)?
3. Excluding pitches for sale, how many football pitches have been closed or had their maintenance withdrawn for the financial years:
 1. 2013/14
 2. 2014/15
 3. 2015/16
 4. 2016/17
 5. 2017/18
4. How many football pitches have had their management transferred from the council to an external organisation, during?
 1. 2013/14
 2. 2014/15
 3. 2015/16
 4. 2016/17
 5. 2017/18

(for clarity on question 4, I would like to know about football pitches owned by the council which have had their management/day-to-day running/ownership signed over to another organisation such as a private company or community trust which continues to operate it as a football pitch)

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 25 July 2018.

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

I request disclosure of information under the terms of the freedom of information act. I understand you have 20 working days in which to reply. I would like to know the following:

1. What was the total number of football pitches (excluding those belonging to schools) which were sold by the council for redevelopment into a non-sports related purpose (eg housing) for the financial years:

1. 2013/14 - Nil
2. 2014/15 Nil
3. 2015/16 Nil
4. 2016/17 Nil
5. 2017/18 Nil

2. How many football pitches do you currently have for sale for redevelopment into a non-sports related purpose (eg housing)? Nil

3. Excluding pitches for sale, how many football pitches have been closed or had their maintenance withdrawn for the financial years:

1. 2013/14 Nil
2. 2014/15 Nil
3. 2015/16 Nil
4. 2016/17 Nil
5. 2017/18 Nil

Some pitches may have been closed on a temporary basis due to poor playing conditions. These have been resolved with reactive or planned maintenance.

4. How many football pitches have had their management transferred from the council to an external organisation, during?

1. 2013/14 Nil
2. 2014/15 Nil
3. 2015/16 Nil
4. 2016/17 Nil
5. 2017/18 1 - Inver Park in Larne was sold for development as a sports facility and would continue to facilitate Larne FC matches, training, development etc.

(for clarity on question 4, I would like to know about football pitches owned by the council which have had their management/day-to-day running/ownership signed over to another organisation such as a private

company or community trust which continues to operate it as a football pitch)

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/200/1819 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.