

FOI Reference Number: FOI/298/1819

Date: 16 October 2018

Request:

1. How many agency staff are employed by Mid and east Antrim BC?
2. What grades are agency workers employed at?
3. How many agency workers have transferred to become council staff in the past year?
4. Is the council charged a fee if and when it takes on an agency worker as a member of council staff? If so, how much?
5. What is the average length of time they have been employed by the council?
6. What is the longest period of time an agency worker has been employed by the council?
7. What is the average weekly pay for an agency worker?
8. What is the average weekly cost to the council of an agency worker?

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 19 September 2018.

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

1. *How many agency staff are employed by Mid and east Antrim BC? 315 (including casual workers)*
2. *What grades are agency workers employed at? Scale 1c to PO 11*
3. *How many agency workers have transferred to become council staff in the past year? None*
4. *Is the council charged a fee if and when it takes on an agency worker as a member of council staff? If so, how much? Preferred suppliers do not charge a fee. Some agencies outside the preferred supplier list will do, but we resist using those agencies where possible. One agency charges 10% of annual salary.*
5. *What is the average length of time they have been employed by the council? 2.8 years*
6. *What is the longest period of time an agency worker has been employed by the council? 12 years*
7. *What is the average weekly pay for an agency worker? Council could not provide this information - the workers are paid by the agency and the council are not aware of the weekly pay that they receive. The agency are the holders of this information and this query may be best directed to them.*
8. *What is the average weekly cost to the council of an agency worker? £3.8 million for year 2017/18 - average weekly cost £76,923*

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/298/1819 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.