

FOI Reference Number: FOI/433/1819

Date: 22 January 2019

Request:

I would like to know:

1. How many people does the council currently employ in communications, press office and/or public relations positions?
2. What was the total annual spend by the council on public relations, press office and communications for the calendar year of 2018?
3. Does the council use any external organisations to handle communications or public relations? If so, which companies are used and how much did the council spend on these services in 2018

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 07 January 2019.

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

1. Two press officers/media relations officers

2. Figures for financial year 2017/2018 to date:

- **Publications, brochures and video: £4,910**
- **Photography: £8,688**
- **Communications external: £6,501**
- **Media monitoring: £7,465**
- **Publicity/PR: £679**

3. Lanyon Communications - £6,501 to date.

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/433/1819 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.