

FOI Reference Number: FOI/107/1920

Date: 25 July 2019

Request:

I am writing to obtain information about your organisation's spending on settlement agreements in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19.

Please note, if your organisation has taken part in a merger with any other local authority since the relevant timeframe, please include the relevant data for that 'legacy council'.

Please include the following information:

- The total number of settlement agreements for each financial year.
- The total costs associated for each settlement agreement in each financial year. This includes, but is not limited to, a payment of salary, payment in lieu of a notice period and payment of compensation for loss of office.

A settlement agreement is a legally binding agreement between an employer and employee used to set out terms and conditions under which a contract of employment is to be terminated. The purpose is for an employee to be given a compensation package, in exchange for giving up a statutory right to make a claim at an employment tribunal.

A settlement agreement is not any exit payment which includes a statutory right to make a claim at an employment tribunal.

In addition, please exclude any settlements agreed under a mutually agreed resignation/severance scheme.

Response:

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 25 June 2019.

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

- *There have been no settlement agreements made in the years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19.*
- *The total costs incurred in relation to settlement agreements in the years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 is nil for each year.*

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/107/1920 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.