

EIR Request (received 12 August 2019) - Reference: DFI/2019-0297

Following your decision to order the withdrawal of 'Parking Attendants' from the town of Limavady in county Derry, 2018, for the purpose of allowing members and supporters of the Orange Order to park their vehicles in restricted areas, those covered by the Road Traffic Management Order, could you please provide details on this, why it happened and on whose authority. Also could you explain how often this removal of 'Attendants' has occurred on previous occasions, not only in Limavady but in other towns and villages throughout Northern Ireland when these events are in motion during the summer months, could you explain 'is it an annual occurrence'?

Response (issued 10 September 2019)

Thank you for your email dated 12 August 2019 requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act, any information held by this office to include the above.

In considering your request on behalf of the Department I have determined that the information requested falls under the aegis of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR), as opposed to Freedom of Information Act 2000. Your request is for information that relates to activities, policies or plans that affect the environment. Section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act specifically excludes from consideration under that Act requests for what is deemed to be environmental information.

A guide explaining the Environmental Information Regulations can be found at:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-environmental-information-regulations/what-are-the-eir/>.

In response to your request, I can confirm the following:

The information you have requested does not exist on the premise made in your request. However, the PSNI advised that vehicle movement was likely to be heavily restricted at times during the day due to the Royal Black Preceptory parade and suggested that the Department may wish to consider redeploying traffic attendants normally covering Limavady. Following consideration of the points made by the PSNI, the Department took the decision not to deploy Traffic Attendants to Limavady on that day. The Department has no records where the deployment of Traffic Attendants was withdrawn from any town or village to facilitate a parade.

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