

**Civil Contingencies Division
Castle Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3SR**

Email: CCPB@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

Paige Jennings

Policy Officer
Participation and the Practice of Rights (PPR)
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paige@pprproject.org

Your Ref:

Our Ref: **FOI 2026 0088**

Date: **11 August 2026**

Dear Paige

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your email which we received on 27 July 2026 requesting information relating to the application of the NI Civil Contingencies Framework during / in the aftermath of the coordinated and targeted racist attacks on homes in June.

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I am writing to advise that The Executive Office (TEO) has completed its consideration of your request, and to confirm that it does hold information of the description specified in your request.

However, I wish to inform you that the information you seek cannot be disclosed.

This is because your request falls under the terms of the exemption in section 12 of the FOIA, which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance for identifying, retrieving, and extracting information would exceed the 'appropriate limit'.

The appropriate limit is defined by [the Freedom of Information and Data Protection \(Appropriate Limit and Fees\) Regulations 2004](#). In the case of TEO this is £600, or 24 hours charged at £25 per hour.

An initial search for the information that you have requested has identified a significant number of records across multiple business areas within the Department which may contain information pertaining to your request.

It is estimated that it would take in excess of 200 staff hours to interrogate those records for relevance; therefore, exceeding the limit of 24 staff hours.

In discharging our duty to provide advice and assistance under section 16 of the FOIA you may find it helpful to know that the NI Civil Contingencies Framework sets out the arrangements for effective emergency management through identifying the processes to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

It leans on the Integrated Emergency Management approach and aligns with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, and with the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles.

The Framework is not specifically invoked during or in the aftermath of emergencies; the processes of emergency management operate on a constant loop, the regularity of which depends on the nature and extent of emergencies impacting society, and on continuous policy development and improvement.

Public disorder is considered to be a civil contingencies risk for which the Department of Justice (DoJ) is the Lead Government Department. The impacts of this risk are assessed by the DoJ and plans for response are established.

With regard to the public disorder and racist attacks in June 2026 a multi-agency Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) chaired by the PSNI was established.

A Humanitarian Cell, a Communications Cell, a Children and Young People Cell, and a Community Cohesion Cell were formed reporting to the SCG.

These Cells remained in place as part of the Recovery Coordination Group led by the DoJ.

During the transition to Recovery, the SCG undertook a debriefing exercise which has informed wider lessons learned. The NI Civil Contingencies Framework is presently subject to review and will reflect on those lessons identified from the events in June.

To bring your request for copies of the information in scope of your request within the FOIA cost limits you may wish to consider narrowing the focus of your request to more specific aspects of the emergency response cycle.

Please note, however, at this stage we cannot guarantee that a refined request will fall within the cost limit, or that any or all information identified would not subsequently be subject to other exemptions from disclosure under the terms of the FOIA.

If you are unhappy with the level of service you have received in relation to our handling of this request, you may ask for an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter by contacting –

Director of Corporate Services
Room A5.15
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3SR

Email - foi@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk

In order to assist a thorough review, it would be helpful if you set out any particular grounds for complaint.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you then have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision by contacting –

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
WILMSLOW
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

The Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless the internal review procedure outlined above has been completed.

Please contact me if you have any queries about this letter, remembering to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Michael Curran