



Reference: FOI2468

Request:

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic North Tyneside Council have taken the decision to apply plastic red and white tape to all public area seating along the coast.

Please can you tell me the following:

1. Approx cost for the implementation of this measure

£40

2. Council resources used to facilitate the application of the tape

2 vans and 2 team members installed the tape. 2 vans were being used by the employees as they were travelling alone in vehicles in adherence of the government guidance. The tape was installed over a 2 day period during the course of the employees carrying out their normal duties along the sea front; emptying litter bins and litter picking therefore no additional costs were incurred

3. The number of employees used to implement these measures (Total number of individuals involved)

see above

4. A copy of the councils risk assessment for the taping up of the benches

There was no specific risk assessment pertaining to this activity – the employees were covered by their existing task and COVID Risk Assessments to carry out their duties.

5. The approx cost for lifting the measures and removing the tape once the pandemic is over

The same 2 employees working at the sea front removed the remainder of the tape over a 3 hour period, again during the course of the normal working day and duties. (this took less time as the majority had been removed by unknown persons).

6. The name and position of the council employee who took the decision to implement these measures

No individual officer took this decision. The Authority took the decision as part of a number of responsive actions, to tape off public seating at a time when the virus was at its peak, to help reduce the risk of transmission between members of the public from contact with potentially contaminated surfaces and in line with social distancing rules. This was in line with Government guidance and advice at the time.