



Reference: FOI0615

Request:

I wish to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, that you supply me with: The following Information regarding the use of consultants by the council (ie. Anyone taken in from an outside body to advice the authority on any matter).

The number of consultants used by the council in

1. 2018
2. 2017
3. 2016

Financial information on invoices paid is held however we do not hold records for numbers of consultants each invoice relates to. To provide this information would require examining each invoice for the period requested.

Therefore this part of the request is refused under s12 (1) Freedom of Information Act 2000, since the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In assessing the cost of complying, the costs attributable to officer time involved in complying have been taken into account. Such costs are limited to £450.00 under the Regulations, which equates to eighteen hours of officer time.

The cost to the council of the use of consultants in

1. 2018
2. 2017
3. 2016

This information is refused in answer to this request under section 21, information accessible to the applicant by other means.

The reason for this is that spend with Council suppliers over £250 is supplied under the Council's transparency policy and can be found here:

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1271/transparency>

This information can be filtered using the "Procurement Classification" column to identify consultancy spend. Spend under £250 is provided below file called "FOI0615 consultancy under £250.xlsx"

1. 2016 £11,460.61

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2. 2017 £7672.40
3. 2018 £5382.29

A breakdown by project and hours worked of the number of consultants used by the council in

1. 2016
2. 2017
3. 2018

This information is not held.

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