

Request:

Former Police Box, Grand Parade, Tynemouth

Land Registry records show the council transferred ownership of the above to the police to facilitate a sale of the building. In October 2016, a Mr Di Meo bought the police box from the police commissioner for a price thought to be in the region of £130,000 for the land and building.

Can you confirm the actual sale price please?

Can you also confirm whether the police box was sold on the open market or whether it went to sealed bids?

Response:

1. The Council transferred to the Police Authority in accordance with the Northumberland Police (Amalgamation) Order 1969. Under this Order, the police areas within the county of Northumberland, the county of the city of Newcastle upon Tyne and the county borough of Tynemouth were amalgamated for police purposes. These are the combined police area known as the Northumberland police area and the combined police authority was known as the Northumberland police authority. Under paragraph 9(1) of the Order, all property held solely or mainly for police purposes by the councils for these areas immediately before 1st April 1969 was transferred to and vested in the new combined police authority. The properties were later transferred to Northumbria Police Authority when the same was formed in 1974. The Tynemouth Police Box should have been transferred to the Police at nil consideration under the aforementioned Order at that time and therefore the 2016 transfer was to rectify that position.

2. North Tyneside Council was not party to the sale of the Police Box to Mr Di Meo. You may wish to direct this to Northumbria Police.