



29 October 2024

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 29295-24
Subject: NIAS Involvement With Pride Month
Date Received: 08/07/2024
Date of Monitoring: 08/07/2024

Thank you for your request for information received on 8th July 2024 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and that is detailed below.

FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)
1. Whether any events have been organised for Pride month. If so please provide the date, start and end time, and title/topic of the event	NIAS supported Pride, in accordance with our Section 75 Equality and Good Relations duties, by participating, along with our regional health and social care colleagues, in the Belfast Pride Parade on 27 July 2024 to highlight health and social care as an equal, diverse and inclusive employer.
2. Whether any LGBT themed merchandise has been purchased for Pride month. i.e. since the beginning of the 2024/25 financial year. If so please provide me with information on what has been purchased and the cost	T Shirt printing - £220
3. Whether the organisation have sponsored any Pride events. If so which events and please provide details of the nature of the sponsorship (particularly the financial value)	<p>In connection with Q1 NIAS participated in Belfast pride. The organisers charge for parade participation. The charges are detailed under "Parade Entry Fees" and is structured to reflect the varying capacities and resource levels of different organizations:</p> <p>Community Groups: Free participation encourages maximum involvement from grassroots organizations, ensuring the</p>



	<p>parade is representative of the local LGBTQIA+ community.</p> <p>Trade Unions and Political Groups: Moderate fees are applied, reflecting their organized structure and moderate access to funds.</p> <p>Self-Funded Staff Groups/Small Business Groups: These groups receive a 50% discount, recognizing their smaller budgets while still contributing to the event.</p> <p>Statutory Agencies and Corporate Groups charges ensure that the parade can be well-funded and that the organizers can maintain high standards for the event.</p> <p>Specific Details of the Parade Entry Fees for NIAS as a Statutory Agency:</p> <p>Float and 30 wristbands: £1000 Other costs incurred in addition to T Shirts: Speaker hire - £60 Hi viz vests - £30 Speaker Converter - £35</p> <p>These fees are designed to be proportionate to the size and scope of participation, ensuring that larger groups contribute more to the event's overall budget.</p> <p>In summary, the rationale for charging statutory agencies to participate in the Pride parade is multifaceted, addressing financial sustainability, equitable resource allocation, support for community groups, commitment assurance, and compliance with safety regulations. This structured fee system helps maintain the parade's inclusivity, safety, and overall success.</p>
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I hope the above fully assists you.

Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Email: ni@ico.org.uk
Website: [ICO Website](#)
Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Telephone: 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <https://nias.hscni.net> Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

(not signed – issued by email)

Information Governance Team