

REQUEST

Subject: Replacement of Parks Police Redbridge

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am seeking information under the FOIA in relation to the involvement of the MOPC/Mayor's Office in relation to the scheme referred to as Buy One Get One Free which introduced the opportunities to purchase additional police resources. It is in relation to the use of this scheme and its application in the LB Redbridge. There are questions I would seek answers too:

1. How did this scheme first become considered.
2. Who proposed the idea, was it MPOC or a London Borough.
3. What was the first date of proposal to London Boroughs.
4. What meetings were held between MOPC members and LB Redbridge and the locations.
5. Who was present at those meetings and were minutes recorded. If so are they available.
6. What information did Redbridge provide in relation to the service they were considering replacing.
7. How many Borough's declared an interest.
8. Were reasons given for Boroughs not entering into agreements.

I am happy to receive the responses to these questions by email.

RESPONSE

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email dated 27 June requesting information on the 'Buy One Get One Free' scheme and meetings with the London Borough of Redbridge.

In your email requested the following information:

1. How did this scheme first become considered.
2. Who proposed the idea, was it MPOC or a London Borough.
3. What was the first date of proposal to London Boroughs.
4. What meetings were held between MOPC members and LB Redbridge and the locations.
5. Who was present at those meetings and were minutes recorded. If so are they available.
6. What information did Redbridge provide in relation to the service they were considering replacing.

7. How many Borough's declared an interest.

8. Were reasons given for Boroughs not entering into agreements.

The Match Funding Scheme was a decision that went to the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA), the predecessor to MOPC and MOPAC. There is a report on the Metropolitan Police Authority's (MPA) website called the Local Authority Match Funding Scheme by the Director of Resources and Assistant Commissioner Territorial Policing on behalf of the Commissioner dated 14 April 2011. You can find a digital copy of the report attached to this email, the report can also be found

at: <http://policeauthority.org/metropolitan/committees/finres/2011/0414/06/index.html#h2002>

In the Background section of Part B – Supporting information you can find the answers to questions 1, 2, and 3 of your request.

In response to questions 4 and 5 I have been advised that any meetings that may have taken place about this scheme with Redbridge would have been with the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) as they were responsible for developing the proposals to be put forward to the MPA for approval. I would therefore recommend that you contact either the London Borough of Redbridge or the MPS to get a response to questions numbered 4 and 5.

The response to question 6 can also be found in the report on Match Funding at the link above where it states at paragraph 3 of Part B that Redbridge had expressed an interest in using match funded officers to police parks and open spaces and tasking teams; it is not clear from the information we hold whether this was intended to replace an existing service.

In response to question 7, when the proposal came to the MPA for a decision in April 2011 twelve boroughs declared a clear interest while a number of other local authorities had a possible interest but had not as of yet indicated how many officers they would be interested in funding or what activities they may wish them to be involved in.

In response to question 8, there were a number of risk implications which were communicated to the MPA in the report dated 14 April 2011; however not all of these would have necessarily been a consideration in a given borough's decision not to adopt the scheme in Spring 2011. We do not hold any other information on the reasons a given Borough decided against expressing an interest in the scheme. If you ask the MPS and local authorities they may be able to provide you with the information requested.

For a fuller response to your questions I would recommend contacting the MPS. With your permission I can share your request with the MPS and ask them to respond to you. Please confirm by email to the foi@mopac.london.gov.uk that you consent to sharing your details with the MPS.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request you have the right to ask the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to formally review this decision.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with our response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner who will undertake an independent review. More information is available at www.ico.gov.uk

I hope you have found this information useful.