

Facilities Management
Our ref: MGLA030216-4266

Date: 23 February 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your email of 3 February 2016.

Our response to your request is as follows:

I'd like to know how many times in the last 3 years that the Stop The War Coalition (or associated persons) has applied for and been granted permission to hold a demonstration or event on both Parliament square and Trafalgar square.

The Stop the War Coalition has applied and been given permission to use the GLA managed areas of Trafalgar and Parliament Square on the following occasions in the last three years (February 2013 – February 2016):

- Saturday 31st August 2013 – Rally at Trafalgar Square
- Saturday 26th July 2014 – Public Gathering at Parliament Square
- Monday 4th August 2014 – Public Gathering at Parliament Square

How much, if anything, did the GLA charge for these events or demonstrations to Stop The War Coalition.

The GLA does not charge venue fees for rallies, demonstrations or public gatherings on the GLA managed areas of Trafalgar or Parliament Square.

Apart from a fee for the space, are there any other charges for cleaning or other contractors that organizers would need to pay - can you please let me know how much they would be?

There can be cleansing charges applied if the organisers of the activity leave behind items or rubbish that needs disposing of, these costs are based on the weight of the litter and the time taken to deal with it. Stop the War has not generated any litter or waste at their rallies and always remove items such as placards at the end of the activity, therefore no charges have been levied for cleansing. Additionally they use a small generator for any

speaker systems so there is no requirement for the GLA to supply power from the square, which could also result in a charge.

In relation to the Stop the War Coalition demonstrations or events, were there any other associated costs that the GLA had to cover?

The GLA incurs a cost in officer time for processing any applications we receive for demonstrations and rallies. These costs are not passed on to the organisers.

Can you also confirm that Stop the War Coalition requested and received permission for their event on parliament square on 2nd December 2015.

On the 2nd December 2015 the Stop the War Coalition held a protest on the roadway outside the House of Commons whilst MP's were in session to hold a vote related to Syria. This protest did not take place on the GLA managed area of Parliament Square and therefore we did not process an application or give permission for it to happen.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, ensuring that you quote the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Amenities Manager

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the complaints procedure, available at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/greater-london-authority-gla/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>