



Date: 18 August 2021

By email: [request-772566-a9022031@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-772566-a9022031@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr. McGivern

Thank you for your email dated 09 July 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to: **Provision of Free Sporting facilities at the Hammer complex.** I apologise for the delay in replying to you and thank you for your forbearance in this regard.

I can confirm that the Council holds some of the Information requested. Where the Council does not hold the information, this is clearly indicated in the response below. The Council has decided that the information it holds can be disclosed into the public domain.

For ease of reference, I have reproduced the parts of your request numbered 1- 5 and have provided the Council's response directly under each one.

**1. The names of Any Resident teams or Groups that have preference to play on the pitches or other facilities at the Hammer Sports facilities**

Belfast City Council does not recognise a resident team at this site. The site is subject to a Facility Management Agreement with Lower Shankill FC which requires them to manage all bookings.

**2. The income received from each resident team or group for use of the facilities during each year from 1st January 2018 to date.**

Belfast City Council does not recognise a resident team at this site. Belfast City Council does not collect any income at this site. The site is subject to a Facilities Management Agreement with Lower Shankill FC which requires them to collect all income.

**3. The amount of funding provided to each resident club or group in each year from 1st January 2018 to date and confirm what the funding was for.**

Belfast City Council does not recognise a resident team at this site. The site is subject to a Facility Management Agreement with Lower Shankill FC. The Agreement requires the Agreement Holder to carry out a wide range of site management and operational maintenance duties. No payments have been made against this agreement during the period requested.

**4. The dates the facilities were provided Free of Charge to each resident team or group by Belfast City Council or its Facilities Management Company.**

Belfast City Council does not recognise a resident team at this site. The site is subject to a Facility Management Agreement with Lower Shankill FC which requires them to manage all bookings. The Agreement details that free use can only be granted with authority from Belfast City Council. Since commencement of the Agreement on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2005, Belfast City Council holds no records of authorising free use at this site.

- 5. The dates the facilities were provided to each Resident team or group and the fees for the facilities use paid for from a Grant provided to them by Belfast City Council or it's Facilities Management Company, or grant awarded to them and the grant scheme was administered by Belfast City Council or its Facilities Management Company.**

Belfast City Council does not recognise a resident team at this site. Belfast City Council does not collect any income at this site. The site is subject to a Facility Management Agreement with Lower Shankill FC which requires them to collect all income. No payments have been made against this agreement during the period requested.

Please note that if this information is to be published it should be attributed to being Belfast City Council's response to a Freedom of Information request.

If you are dissatisfied with how the Council handled your request for information, you have the right to request that the Council formally reviews this decision. If you wish to do so, please write to the Records Manager, Information Governance Unit, Legal and Civic Services, Belfast City Council, City Hall, Belfast, BT1 5GS, or by email to; [foi@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:foi@belfastcity.gov.uk).

Should you remain dissatisfied following the Council's internal review, you can seek an independent review from the Information Commissioner. Requests for an independent review should be made in writing to: The Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. However, I would advise you that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to reconsider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Cormac McCann  
Lead Officer Community Provision