

EIR Request (received 21 October 2021) - Reference: DFI/2021-0389

Parking tickets at the loading bay at 9 Upper Queen Street.

I was unsuccessful in an appeal for parking in the loading bay on Sunday 4th July 2021, I was with my 90 year old mother for lunch at a nearby restaurant. I am not from the area and assumed with my mums disabled badge I was permitted to park there as she has mobility issues - seemingly I am mistaken.

1. Can you tell me how many parking tickets have been issued for parking in this particular loading bay - on a Sunday - at the above address this year?
2. How many were successfully appealed if any? I am hoping you can respond to this request under FOI.

Response (issued 22 November 2021)

Thank you for your email which was received on 21 October 2021, requesting information, under the Freedom of Information Act, about parking tickets issued outside 9 Upper Queen Street, Belfast, on Sundays, over this last year.

In considering your request on behalf of the Department, I have determined that the information requested falls under the aegis of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, as opposed to the FOI Act 2000.

A guide explaining the Environmental Information Regulations can be found at:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-environmental-information-regulations/whatare-the-eir/>.

I have provided a responses to each of your queries below;

1. Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) are issued by road or street name. The hand held devices Traffic Attendants (TAs) use do not have the facility to record by bay number or address such as of adjacent properties. I can however advise that on Sundays only 54 PCNs were issued on Upper Queen Street, Belfast between 20 October 2020 and 20 October 2021, for the contravention of being parked in a loading place during restricted hours without loading.

For some infringements, the TAs will take photos which could be used to more accurately identify the location, however to manually examine all 54 PCNs to determine if photos were taken, and then to determine if they relate to this bay would require a

significant staff resource, and even then it may not necessarily provide accurate results. The Department is therefore unable to further refine the information held to answer your specific question.

2. Of the 54 PCNs issued at Upper Queen Street, Belfast, between 20th October 2020 and the 20th October 2021, 1 PCN was cancelled upon appeal.

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