

From the Office of the Minister

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**Mr Peter Weir MLA
NI Assembly
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26 July 2013

CORRECTION TO AQW 24731/11-15

I replied on 9 July 2013 to AQW 24731/11-15 in which you asked for details of (i) the top ten tourist attractions in County Down, in terms of visitor numbers; and (ii) the number of visitors each received, in the last available year.

NISRA have subsequently identified an error in the response submitted.

In the original response issued to the AQ the top ten tourist attractions in County Down during 2012 were identified as follows:

Attraction	Visitor Numbers 2012
Delamont Country Park	577,320
Dundonald International Ice Bowl	459,308
Newry Cathedral	200,000
Scrabo Country Park	180,000
The Saint Patrick Centre	91,780
Kilbroney Park	85,794
North Down Museum	69,148
Rowallane Garden	51,615
Newry and Mourne Museum	34,719
Ards Arts Centre	33,332

Having now identified and resolved the error in the initial response the top ten tourist attractions in County Down during 2012 were as follows:

Attraction	Visitor Numbers 2012
Dundonald International Ice Bowl	459,308
Pickie Fun Park	244,879
Newry Cathedral	200,000
Ulster Folk and Transport Museum	176,551
Castle Ward House & Demesne	161,339
Mount Stewart House and Gardens	158,500
The Saint Patrick Centre	91,780
North Down Museum	69,148
Hillsborough Courthouse	54,376
FE McWilliam Gallery/Studio (incl Tourist Information Centre)	50,466

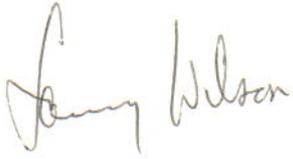
For the purposes of NISRA's Annual Tourism Statistics publication 2012 country parks/parks/forests and gardens are separated into a category of their own. Responding country parks/parks/forests and gardens in County Down who did not wish their details to remain confidential are also provided separately as follows:

Attraction	Visitor Numbers 2012
Crawfordsburn Country Park	800,000
Delamont Country Park	577,320
Scrabo Country Park	180,000
Rowallane Garden	51,615

This information is sourced from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency's Visitor Attraction Survey. It is important to note that the Visitor Attraction Survey is a voluntary survey and all data presented in the report is based solely on the visitor numbers provided by the attractions choosing to take part in the survey. Visitor numbers are accepted in good faith from the proprietor of the attraction.

I apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

I have copied this letter to the Speaker and all MLAs. A copy has also been placed in the library.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sammy Wilson'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

SAMMY WILSON MP MLA

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