



From: The Minister

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Our ref: AQW 13247/22-27
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Michelle McIlveen MLA
Room 210
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Via email: michelle.mcilveen@mla.niassembly.gov.uk

Dear Michelle,

AQW 13247/22-27: To ask the Minister for Communities to detail (i) the amount spent by (a) his Department; and (b) his Department's arm's-length bodies on diversity training in each of the last five years; and (ii) the anticipated spend by (a) his Department; and (b) his Department's arm's-length bodies on diversity training in the 2024-25 financial year.

You recently submitted the above question. Due to the large volume of detail required to provide an answer to your question, I have arranged for this to be placed in the Assembly Library.

Yours sincerely,

**Gordon Lyons MLA
Minister for Communities**

I have set out in the tables below (i) the amount spent by my Department's arm's length bodies on diversity training in each of the last five years (except Northern Ireland Housing Executive which is referred separately below); and (ii) the anticipated spend by the arm's-length bodies on diversity training in the 2024-25 financial year.

My Department spent £1,080 on diversity training in 2021/2022 only. This spend reflects where diversity training was provided by an external provider, in this case, Autism Awareness that was delivered by Employers for Disability NI. Routine diversity training is delivered by the Department of Finance (DoF) and all staff are encouraged to participate. As the Department is notionally charged by DoF, it is not possible to include a breakdown of that spend. It is, however, a figure that is accounted for in the Department's Annual Report & Accounts. No spend is anticipated in 2024-25 for my Department.

Northern Ireland Housing Executive delivers diversity training across the organisation including 'Equality Awareness' and 'Dignity at work' training. As this is considered business as usual, the costs cannot be readily identified.

In addition to delivery of in-house training, and between 2019 – 2024, a number of courses were procured for NIHE which would fall under the umbrella of diversity training; with a total cost of circa £15,000. Of note within this sum was a one-off cost of £9,600 for Equality Awareness e-learning, serving approximately 3,500 staff, JAM Card Training (£1,950) aimed at front line staff and Autism Awareness Training (£2,400) open to all NIHE staff.

Many diversity courses delivered on behalf of NIHE are free of charge by partnering organisations such as Disability Action and the Employers Forum on Disability.

A further spend of approximately £3,000 is anticipated within this financial year and is included in the table below.

ALB	£
2019/2020	
Ulster Supported Employment Limited	192
Charity Commission NI	558
Commissioner for Older People NI	1,780
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
Local Government Staff Commission	4,500
National Museums NI	8,800
Arts Council NI	695
Libraries NI	2,440
Northern Ireland Museums Council	2,455
2020/2021	
Ulster Supported Employment Limited	192
Charity Commission NI	756
Commissioner for Older People NI	1,500
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
NI Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee	1,200
Local Government Staff Commission	15,000
National Museums NI	7,575
Libraries NI	500
Sport NI	1,998
Northern Ireland Museums Council	1,100
2021/2022	

Ulster Supported Employment Limited	2,700
Charity Commission NI	612
Commissioner for Older People NI	1,240
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
Local Government Staff Commission	9,500
National Museums NI	6,830
Libraries NI	540
Sport NI	2,088
Northern Ireland Museums Council	1,600
2022/2023	
Ulster Supported Employment Limited	837
Charity Commission NI	702
Commissioner for Older People NI	315
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
Local Government Staff Commission	9,500
National Museums NI	7,550
Arts Council NI	335
Libraries NI	590
Sport NI	1,944
Armagh Observatory & Planetarium	114
Northern Ireland Museums Council	1,220
2023/2024	
Ulster Supported Employment Limited	234
Charity Commission NI (CCNI)	630
Commissioner for Older People NI	978
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
NI Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee	1,620
Local Government Staff Commission	12,900
National Museums NI	9,500
Arts Council NI	1,965

Libraries NI	610
Sport NI	2,160
Northern Ireland Museums Council	950
2024/2025 (Anticipated Spend)	
Ulster Supported Employment Limited	1,470
Charity Commission NI (CCNI)	778
Commissioner for Older People NI	978
NI Commissioner for Children & Young People	390
NI Local Government Officers Superannuation Committee	1,944
Local Government Staff Commission	12,900
National Museums NI	13,300
Arts Council NI	1,260
Sport NI	2,178
Armagh Observatory & Planetarium	Not to exceed 4,000
NIHE	3,000