



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-03545

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: MEMBERS OF BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY (BNP) - POLICE OFFICERS

Request:

In 2004, the Association of Chief Police Officer barred police officers and PCSOs from joining/or being members of the British National Party (BNP).

Question 1 - How many PSNI police officers have been found to be members of the BNP. (Please could this figure be broken down by rank of officer and year their membership of the BNP was discovered).

Question 2 - What sanctions the officers faced. (Again if this could be broken down by rank of officer and year their membership of the BNP was discovered).

Question 3 - How many PSNI PCSOs have been found to be members of the BNP. (Please could this figure be broken down by year their membership of the BNP was discovered).

Question 4 - What sanctions the PCSOs faced. (Again if this could be broken down by year their membership of the BNP was discovered).

Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

Answer to Q1 - No officers in the Police Service of Northern Ireland have been found to be members of the BNP.

Answer to Q2 - As no PSNI officer has been found to be a member of the BNP, no sanction was imposed on any officer.

Answer to Q3 - The Police Service of Northern Ireland do not employ nor have they ever employed PCSOs.

Answer to Q4 - As the Police Service of Northern Ireland do not employ nor have they ever employed PCSOs this question is not applicable.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that all PSNI replies under Freedom of Information will be released simultaneously into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk.

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.