



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04642

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: RUC/PSNI OFFICER's WHO HAVE CLAIMED FOR DAMAGED HEARING

Request:

***RUC - Royal Ulster Constabulary**

Question 1 - I am writing to request details on how many RUC/PSNI officers have claimed for damaged hearing due to the fact they were given unsuitable or, in some cases, no hearing protection during firearms training and firearms practice.

Question 2 - Can you also give me figures on how many cases are outstanding and how many have been settled.

Question 3 - Finally will you please furnish me with details of how much money has been paid out to date in cases of this nature? I request this information through the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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 1 - Number of hearing loss claims registered -1751

Answer 2 - Cases dealt with - 515.
Cases outstanding - 1236

Answer 3- Compensation paid - £5,612,100

Please note these figures are accurate as of 30/09/08

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.