



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01600

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: CRIMES COMMITTED BY CIVILIAN POLICE STAFF

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How many criminal convictions committed by civilian police staff has the force been notified of in the 2008 calendar year?

Question 2

Please list the offences for which these individuals were convicted.

Question 3

Please list any roles of convicted individuals, where possible.

Question 4

How many members of civilian police staff retained their job with the force after it was notified that they had been convicted of a criminal offence in the 2008 calendar year?

Question 5

How many members of civilian police staff lost their job with the force after it was notified that they had been convicted of a criminal offence in the 2008 calendar year?

Answer

The information requested is not held centrally. The Human Resources Department within the PSNI was de-centralised several years ago with every department and district within the PSNI having its own HR Department. I have been advised by District Command Units and Departments, that to locate, retrieve and summarise the information requested would require a manual trawl of all civilian police staff's records to ascertain who, if any, held criminal convictions. As there are approximately 2,700 civilian staff, to manually trawl each record would take in excess of the £450 (18hrs) appropriate limit as specified by the Secretary of State. Therefore the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

The PSNI have also considered if we can be of help in assisting you to refine your request, however, the nature and structure of the information requested unfortunately makes this impossible.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.psni.police.uk/>

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