



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-01791

**Keyword:** Complaints/Discipline

**Subject:** OFFICERS SERVED WITH DISCIPLINARY CHARGES

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

Over the 12 month period preceding 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 how many officers having been served with disciplinary charges to appear before a misconduct hearing at PSD Lisnasharragh have been offered an additional opportunity to take a Superintendent's Written Warning?

Please supply a gender and rank breakdown.

#### Answer

In the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009 a total of three officers were initially offered a Superintendent's Written warning, but refused. In all three cases directions were then issued to proceed to Misconduct Hearings and charges prepared. However, in each case the officer decided to reconsider the issue of a warning prior to any Misconduct Hearing taking place. Consequently each officer received and accepted the original Superintendent's Written Warning.

Of the three officers receiving the warnings, two were male and one female. Two held the rank of Constable. The remaining officer was a Sergeant.

It should be noted that the figures mentioned above refer to cases where the Superintendent's Written Warnings were accepted within the time period requested. The date of the incident, the date of the investigation and the date on which the original written warning was refused may not necessarily fall within the same time period.

The figures supplied have been compiled by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department which has responsibility for internal discipline relating to police officers. All the details requested are not recorded centrally and were obtained from the interrogation of several databases across a number of different categories and the manual examination of a number of files. Information extracted in this manner may not be as accurate as that extracted from a single central database.

United Kingdom Police Services do not use generic systems to capture information. For this reason PSNI's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other Police Service.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Team 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, and BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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.psnipolice.uk>

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