



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-01183

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** GUIDANCE ISSUED TO SENIOR OFFICERS REF INVESTIGATION OF CRIME

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

I would like to request copies of any force-wide guidance issued to senior officers, which sets out how resources should be distributed in relation to the investigation of crimes. If there are multiple guides for different stations or areas within the force area then please provide me with multiple guides. In essence I am looking for guidance which tells senior officers which alleged crimes and offences should be investigated and which should not, and which alleged offences should have officers attend the scene and which should not.

#### Answer

The PSNI's Legislation and Procedures Branch are currently drafting a document relating to your request. Once the draft has been approved, the document will be published on the PSNI web site. As this document is currently a draft document, releasing it at this stage could lead to confusion if the final document was amended prior to the final release. Therefore, the PSNI has decided to exempt this request under Section 22 - Information Intended for Future Publication. Under Section 22 (1) of the Act the Police Service of Northern Ireland is not obliged to disclose information that is held with a view to its publication at some future date.

However, the PSNI has provided a link to the Call Grading Policy which may be of use to you:

[http://www.psnipolice.uk/policy\\_directive\\_1408.pdf](http://www.psnipolice.uk/policy_directive_1408.pdf)

The following link may be of interest to you:

[http://www.psnipolice.uk/policy\\_directive\\_0208\\_the\\_professionalising\\_investigation\\_p~1.pdf](http://www.psnipolice.uk/policy_directive_0208_the_professionalising_investigation_p~1.pdf)

If you have any queries regarding your request please write or contact the Freedom of Information Team on 028 9070 0164. Please remember to quote the reference number listed above in any future communications with the Freedom of Information Team.

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](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.