



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02089

Keyword: Finance

Subject: CIVIL ACTIONS

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Under FOI F-2009-01099 I enquired regarding the cost of civil action in the years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

I should be most grateful if you could provide me with a breakdown of where the civil actions are emanating from, that is internal civil actions between the PSNI and employees or external civil actions where a citizen sues the PSNI.

Answer

Our compensation database contains 7 categories of claims as follows:

- AT – claims from public for damage caused by Army Technical Officers
- AW – claims from public re allegations of wrongful arrest, assault by police etc
- CP – claims from public for damage to property
- CS – claims from support staff for damage to property
- IT – Industrial Tribunal claims
- PI – claims from police and support staff for personal injury
- PP – claims from police for damage to property

Question 2

I should also be most appreciative if you could provide an outline of the claims that have been made in each of the years above or, at least, provide me with a flavour of the types of claims.

Answer

CATEGORY	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09
AT	11	4	3	3
AW	269	249	183	243
CP	201	178	153	186
CS	20	15	9	15
IT	21	551*	1687*	32
PI	1831**	345	624***	2133***
PP	57	43	32	28
TOTAL	2410	1385	2691	2640

* Increase due to claims for breach of Working Time Directive

** High number of claims due to claims for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

*** Increase due to high number of claims for Hearing Loss

It should be noted that the number of claims registered in a year has no correlation to the number of claims concluded in a year. Therefore the statistics provided for FOI Request F-2009-01099 have no direct connection to the statistics provided on this occasion.

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 letter.

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 @ www.psnipolice.uk

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