



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01511

Keyword: Finance

Subject: COMPENSATION PAID TO PSNI EMPLOYEES 2006 - 2009

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How much has been paid out in compensation to PSNI employees in each of the last 3 years, both out of court and in court, please specify amounts for each.

Please specify in each of the three years: -

Question 2 Amount for injuries on duty

Question 3 Amount for damage to property

Question 4 Amount for stress/trauma

Question 5 Amount in any other categories, please specify

Question 6 Amount for Payments to public for wrongful arrest, or searches - please specify categories.

Answer 1- 6

Please find details below, which hold the answers to the above questions

Question 7

Amount for total legal fees to barristers for cases not fought and the actual number of cases in this category.

Answer

The database in the PSNI Legal Services Branch holds details of legal fees paid for each case however it does not give a breakdown of fees paid solely to barristers. PSNI are therefore unable to supply this type of detail.

However I can advise that the global figure for legal fees for the last 3 years is as follows: -

06/07 - £2.8m

07/08 - £3.1m

08/09 - £4.6m

Question 8

What % of cases were fought and what settled?

Answer

Please find details below, which hold the answer to the above question.

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 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.

PSNI EMPLOYEES

| | Injury on Duty | | Stress/ Trauma Settled | Damage to Property | | Other* | | Total |
|-------|----------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|------------|
| | Court Award | Settled | | Court Award | Settled | Court Award | Settled | |
| 06/07 | 235,927 | 2,450,214 | 28,000 | | 8,408 | 9,147 | 62,905 | 2,794,601 |
| 07/08 | 4,700 | 2,789,371 | 37,500 | 375 | 7,365 | | 231,446 | 3,070,757 |
| 08/09 | 24,038 | 4,760,504 | 296,000 ** | | 7,971 | | 113,971 | 5,202,484 |
| Total | 264,665 | 10,000,089 | 361,500 | 375 | 23,744 | 9,147 | 408,322 | 11,067,842 |

* other includes Industrial Tribunal Claims

** includes one payment of £150k

COMPENSATION PAID TO PUBLIC

| | Wrongful Arrest | | Searches | | Other* | | Total |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Court Award | Settled | Court Award | Settled | Court Award | Settled | |
| 06/07 | 4,350 | 335,825 | | 32,676 | | 113,220 | 486,071 |
| 07/08 | 20,600 | 253,850 | | 35,563 | 1,062 | 32,729 | 343,804 |
| 08/09 | 2,000 | 258,475 | 787 | 46,928 | 970 | 17,283 | 326,443 |
| TOTAL | 26,950 | 848,150 | 787 | 115,167 | 2,032 | 163,232 | 1,156,318 |

* other includes :-

- ATO damage (Army Technical Damage)
- Damage claims not directly attributed to a planned search

CASES CONCLUDED

| | Contested | Settled | Withdrawn | Passed On | Liability Denied |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| 06/07 | 3% | 42% | 39% | 2% | 14% |
| 07/08 | 3.5% | 37% | 55% | 1.5% | 3% |
| 08/09 | 4% | 74% | 19% | 3% | |
| Average of 3 years | 6% | 51% | 38% | 2% | 6% |