



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01494

Keyword: Finance

Subject: OVERTIME BUDGETS

Request and Answer:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I seek a breakdown of the police force's payments to its officers and staff at 'overtime rates'. By 'overtime rate' I mean a rate of pay that is higher than base salary owing to hours worked in addition to the regular schedule.

I would like this data annually for the past two years. I do not mind if the data is compiled by financial or calendar year but it must be consistent throughout the time period.

Specifically I seek:

Question 1

Total annual cost of overtime.

Question 2

Total budgeted annual cost of overtime.

Question 4

Annual total of overtime pay broken down by officers and staff.

Answer

Please find attached document below in response to the above three questions.

Question 3

Total annual number of overtime hours worked.

Question 5

Annual total of overtime hours worked broken down by officers and staff.

Question 6

Annual total of overtime pay for officers broken down by officer rank.

Question 7

Annual total of overtime hours worked for officers broken down by officer rank.

Question 8

Annual total of overtime pay for staff broken down by salary band.

Question 9

Annual total of overtime hours worked for staff broken down by salary band.

Answer

The cost of complying with your request for information in questions 3,5,6,7,8,9 would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Regulations 2004, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

PSNI's Finance Branch have advised that technical staff would be required to write a data program to enable the retrieval of the information.

3 reports would have to be written to retrieve information on money and hours together, or 6 reports would be required to retrieve information on hours and money separately, and both these options in their own right would exceed the cost limit.

The PSNI have also considered whether we can be of any assistance in helping you to refine your request to bring it within the appropriate limit but unfortunately the nature and structure of this information makes this impossible.

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.psnipolice.uk/>

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

	Resource Budget 2007/08 £k	Resource Expenditure 2007/08 £k	Resource Budget 2008/09 £k	Resource Expenditure 2008/09 £k
Police Overtime	45,933	46,013	40,604	41,198
Police Staff Overtime	5,177	4,342	4,339	4,042