



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00231

Keyword: Finance

Subject: POLICING BUDGET BY AREA

Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information.

I have today decided to:

- disclose records numbered 3, 10 and 11 in full;
- questions 1 and 9 cannot be answered for the reasons outlined below, and
- fully exempt records numbered 2, 4-8 and 12 (partially), pursuant to the provisions of section 21 of the Act.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

Question

For the current or most recent year for which this information is available: The total policing budget.
Total payment for each of the areas below

1. Disability
2. Sickness
3. Suspension
4. Pension costs
5. Wages for police personnel
6. Wages for civilian personnel
7. Payments made to police personnel who have taken early "Patton" retirement
8. Other payments for early retirement
9. Hiring in temporary police officers
10. Hiring in private security
11. Training
12. Travel, class of travel & accommodation costs related to travel

Please note if the figures include national insurance contributions

Answer

1. Disability - Wages for disabled police or civilian personnel will be included within these areas below. Due to the nature of how information is held in the Finance system it would be impossible to extract information for payments to disabled personnel only.

2. Sickness - Pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 it has been decided to refuse access to the information you have requested. Section 21 of the Act provides that information, which is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means, is exempt information. The information you have requested is available for the 2007/08 financial year, from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme. To access our Publication Scheme please visit our website at http://www.psnl.police.uk/psnlis_sickness_bill_for_12_months.pdf

3. Suspension - £899,634.80 (net, from 1/1/08 to 31/12/08)

4. Pension costs -

5. Wages for police personnel -

6. Wages for civilian personnel -

7. Payments made to police personnel who have taken early "Patton" retirement -

8. Other payments for early retirement -

The information you have requested is available for the 2007/08 financial year, from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme. To access our Publication Scheme please visit our website at http://www.psnl.police.uk/cc_annual_report_2008.pdf where you will find overall budget figures, including the answers to questions 4 to 8 above.

9. Hiring in temporary police officers - The PSNI do not employ temporary police officers.

10. Hiring in private security - £7,894K for Contracted out Security Guards for the 2007/08 financial year.

11. Training - £4,760K for Police and Civilian Training for the 2007/08 financial year.

12. Travel, class of travel & accommodation costs related to travel - The information you have requested in relation to **travel costs** is available for the 2007/08 financial year from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme. To access our Publication Scheme please visit our website at http://www.psnl.police.uk/the_psnlis_travel_bill.pdf. In relation to **accommodation costs** - PSNI Accommodation (Hotel) Costs (Financial Year 2007/08) £764,934.54

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@psnl.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.psnl.police.uk/>

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