



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-02340

**Keyword:** Human Resources

**Subject:** CHIEF SUPERINTENDENTS AND ABOVE WITH A BUSINESS INTEREST

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

How many officers above the rank of superintendent have registered a business interest?

#### Answer

2 officers above the rank of superintendent have registered a business interest.

#### Question 2

How many of those have had their business interest investigated by (a) Policing Board or (b) P.S.D/I. P.O

#### Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to part (b) of this question based on the information you have provided with regard to PSD. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

The Chief Constable is the 'disciplinary authority' for officers up to and including the rank of Chief Superintendent. The 'disciplinary authority' for officers above the rank of Chief Superintendent is the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Board would have details of cases reported to it.

The Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland (I presume the term IPO refers to the Ombudsman) has responsibility for investigating complaints made against any police officer irrespective of rank and the appropriate 'disciplinary authority' should be informed when a complaint has been made and when it has terminated (there may or may not be follow up action to be taken by the relevant 'disciplinary authority'). However, there are occasions when insufficient detail is provided. Consequently the Ombudsman may have information relating to this request which is not held by the PSNI.

You may wish to contact the Northern Ireland Policing Board and the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland directly yourself to ascertain if any information to which you seek access is held. For contact details please see the websites as follows:

[info.@policeombudsman.org](mailto:info.@policeombudsman.org)

[information@nipolicingboard.org.uk](mailto:information@nipolicingboard.org.uk)

#### Question 3

Do the P.S.N.I consider (a) paid (b) unpaid directors of a company as having a business interest? If so please attach policies.

**Answer**

PSNI applies the service procedure 11/04 in conjunction with all relevant legislation when considering any application register a business interest. Such legislation includes Regulation 7 & 8 of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Regulations 1196, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (Conduct) Regulations 2000, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (Conduct) Regulations 2003, the Working Time Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998, the Police Service of Northern Ireland Regulations 2005 and Human Rights legislation.

For the purposes of the PSNI considering a business interest, the legislation defines as business interest as follows:-

1) For the purposes of regulation 7, a member or, as the case may be, a relative, shall have a business interest if—

(a) the member holds any office or employment for hire or gain (otherwise than as a member) or carries on any business; or

(b) the member, or any relative holds, or possesses a pecuniary interest in, any such licence or permit as is mentioned in paragraph (2).

[Regulation 8 - Police service of Northern Ireland regulations 2005]

The information you have requested on policies is available from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme. To access our Publication Scheme please visit our website at:

[http://www.psni.police.uk/psni\\_officer\\_with\\_registered\\_second\\_jobs.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/psni_officer_with_registered_second_jobs.pdf)

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](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 @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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