



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00275

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full, however not all of the information that you have requested has, been located.

Question

For your police force, could you list the title of each health and safety related training courses that your police force ran for your officers between the 1st January 2007 and the 1st January 2008. For each course could you list the cost of the course to your police force as well as the number of officers that attended?

Answer

The following are courses supplied by PSNI Health & Safety Branch:

- H&S Risk Assessment - General (495 people trained)
- H&S Risk Assessment - COSHH (8 people trained) (COSHH - The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994)
- H&S Risk Assessment - DSE (1 person trained) (DSE - The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992)
- H&S Manual Handling Skills (25 people trained)
- H&S Fire Precaution Officer Training (212 people trained)
- Fire Awareness - Practical Extinguisher (324 people trained)
- Manual Handling Instructor and Risk Assessment Course (31 people trained)
- Premises Officer (H&S) Course (15 people trained)
- Manual Handling Instructors and Risk Assessment Course - Refresher (4 people trained)

Health and Safety Branch also provide specialist inputs into other courses run by the PSNI Police College such as Custody Sergeants, ICIDP (Initial Crime Investigators Development Programme), Supervisors Training, Induction Training, etc.

Other courses within PSNI such as Firearms Training, PSP (Personal Safety Programme), Public Order Training, Traffic Driver Training, etc includes elements of health and safety (safe practices) however this training is not captured by Health and Safety Branch. Use of collapsible search ladders for TSG's, (Tactical Support Groups) is provided by OCU (Operational Command Unit) trainers.

As this type of training, for the period of your request, was routinely provided, entirely within the PSNI, (i.e., no outside contractors were involved) the cost of the training, as would be determined by the rank/grade of officers/staff attending and the location, etc., was not calculated. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold this part of the information to which you seek access.

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.