



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-03182

**Keyword:** Human Resources

**Subject:** INJURED POLICE OFFICERS

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

Over the past 10 years, how many police officers have been injured (clarified as "injured on duty") each year, broken down by month and injury.

#### Question 2

Details of how long injured police officers have been off work.

#### Answer

I have been advised by the record holder that information in relation to your request prior to 2003 is not held in an easily retrievable format. To provide figures prior to 2003, and to break figures down into "month by month" and "nature of injury" reports as requested would require a member of staff in the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Human Resources department to manually re-examine all sick figures prior to 2003.

In addition, a re-run of all monthly sick reports for the past ten years and a re-count of all those Injuries On Duty reported without any sickness being taken would have to be carried out. I have been advised by the record holder that retrieval of the exact information you seek would take between 30 and 40 hours. Therefore, it is estimated that the cost of complying with your request, including locating it, retrieving it and exacting it 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 (18 hours).

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

I have also considered whether I can be of any assistance in terms of helping you refine your request to bring it under the cost limit. The Human Resources department have advised me that they have been able to provide the total number of Injury On Duty related incidents reported 2003-2009 and the total number of working days lost per year to Injury On Duty related incidents 2003-2009. This information has been provided within the cost limit and is outlined below.

#### Number of reported IOD related incidents 2003 - 2009

2003-04:	1 942
2004-05	1 696
2005-06	1 730
2006-07	1 437
2007-08	1 401
2008-09	985

## Working Days Lost per year due to IOD related incidents 2003 - 2009

2003-04:	70 831
2004-05	57 397
2005-06	43 449
2006-07	35 401
2007-08	30 963
2008-09	17 003

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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.