



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01686

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: INJURY ON DUTY

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Would you please outline the maximum timeline in which Injury on Duty decisions are made?

Answer

There is currently no formal process for dealing with IOD applications. HR managers will ordinarily assess IOD applications as soon as reasonably practicable after all the required information has been received. Cases where there is an immediate implication in relation to pay will usually receive priority. People Development are about to undertake a project in relation to the IOD process and this may result in a documented timescale for dealing with these applications in the future.

Question 2

Who is responsible for making an IOD decision and what considerations are given?

Answer

The decision maker in an IOD is dependent upon the injury being claimed. Ordinarily the HR manager will determine if a particular injury may or may not be accepted, in doing this the HR manager may seek OHW opinion on causal connection. The Head of HR is the decision maker in cases where the application is for work related stress.

The factors that are considered in assessing an IOD are

- (a) the police officer concerned received the injury while on duty or while on a journey necessary to enable him to report for duty or return home after duty
- (b) s/he would not have received the injury had s/he not been known to be a constable, or
- (c) the officer has a recognised clinical condition that is directly and causally linked to executing the office of constable and is not coincidental to it.

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.