



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02679

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: PROMOTION TO INSPECTOR

Request and Answer:

Question 1

During a presentation to officers in April 2009, PSNI Human Resources stated that the maximum amount of officers who will be promoted to Inspector up to 31/03/2011 was to be 64. Can you verify that this number is still valid?

Answer

The maximum number of 64, to be promoted to Inspector is still valid.

Question 2

How many officers are currently (as at 26/08/2009) acting up to Inspector?

Answer

As at 26/08/2009, 28 officers were acting up to Inspector.

Question 3

Of those officers, how many have passed the qualification examination to Inspector?

Answer

Of the 28 officers who are acting up to Inspector 14 have passed the exam (i.e. have part 1 and 2) and the same 14 are eligible and currently appear on the merit list.

Question 4

How many officers who passed the Inspector's qualification examination prior to 2008 are on the current merit list for promotion to Inspector?

Answer

There are 26 officers on the list who passed the qualification exam prior to 2008.

Question 5

How many offers of promotion to Inspector has each of those officers at question 4 received?

Answer

In relation to the 26 officers as per above, 17 of those have never been given an offer of promotion as they qualified in 2007 however were not eligible in 2008 due to not having 2 years at the rank of Sergeant. The remaining 9 range in their qualification dates from 1989 - 2006 and theoretically should have received 2 offers each year that they were eligible. Due to the time elapsed in relation to the remaining 9 (i.e. 20 years ago from longest qualification) it would take several weeks of dedicated research to answer this question and the cost of complying with this part of your request for information 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.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland have also considered whether we can be of any assistance in terms of helping you refine this question to bring it under the cost limit however the nature and structure of the information unfortunately makes this impossible.

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.