



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-03143

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: PSNI DRIVING PERMITS

Request and Answer:

Question 1

What levels of driving permits are offered?

Answer

Permits, is not a phrase that is used by PSNI. Drivers can be authorised at Advanced, Standard, or Basic Level.

Question 2

What do each of the driving permits allow the holder to do?

Answer

Advanced Authorisation permits drivers to drive high performance vehicles. Standard Authorisation permits drivers to drive low/medium performance vehicles. Basic Authorisation permits drivers to drive police vehicles in a non operational capacity.

Question 3

What training is required for each of the driving permits and how are the candidates assessed? How long in length are the courses for each of the respective driving permits?

Answer

Both Standard and Advanced Courses are delivered to the National ACPO Standard, (see below). Candidates are continually assessed but are also subject to a final independent assessment. The Advanced Course is of 4 weeks duration, the Standard Course is of 3 weeks duration and the Basic Driver Course is 2 Days duration.

Question 4

Are any of the driving permits offered by your Force, offered in a modular basis, (i.e. are they offered in modules of 1 week at a time until the course is complete etc),

Answer

No

Question 5

Which of the permits are available to Special Constables?

Answer

We do not refer to this group as Special Constables. They are known as Police Officer Part-Time and can only achieve authorisation as Basic Driver.

Question 6

If any modular courses are offered; are they available to Special Constables?

Answer

No

Question 7

How many Special Constables in your Force have driving permits which allow them to respond (i.e. use blue lights, sirens and allowed the holder to utilise the relevant exemptions afforded to them in law with respect of speeding, going through red lights etc)

Answer

None

Please note that an updated police driver training manual was launched by ACPO and ACPOS in June 2009. The manual provides police force driving schools with a framework allowing them to develop a course based on the National Police Driving Standards. This information can be accessed via the following web link: http://www.acpos.police.uk/Documents/Policies/RP_NPDSC%20Police%20Driving%20Manual%202009.pdf

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