



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01438

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: RETIRED PSNI STAFF RETURNING TO SERVICE

Request and Answer:

Question 1.

Please state how many staff have retired from the PSNI since its formation and later returned to the service in a different role.

Question 2.

Of the above, please detail how many were officers and how many were civilian staff.

Question 3.

Please provide a breakdown of the rank/duty of each member of staff, each member's salary on retiring from the PSNI, and their salary on returning. In each case please specify the date this person left and the date this person was subsequently re-employed.

Answer

The cost of complying with 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 information requested would not be held centrally, therefore, to locate, retrieve and summarise the information requested would require a manual trawl of every existing and retired member of staff from the last 8 years. Bearing in mind that there are estimated to be at least 500 records, and allowing 10 minutes per record, this would take in excess of 83hrs, which far exceeds the appropriate limit of £450 (18hrs) as determined by the Secretary of State. The PSNI also considered trying to cross reference national insurance numbers of retired officers with those employed on behalf of the PSNI through outside recruitment agencies. However, this would also be over cost due to several recruitment businesses having to provide details of employees and then trying to cross-reference them with retired officers who were in receipt of a pension. These lists would be problematic in themselves as agency workers are temporary staff and are constantly changing.

The PSNI has also considered if we can be of assistance in refining your request to bring it within the appropriate limit. Unfortunately due to the nature and structure of the information requested, this would not be possible.

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.

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

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.