



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-03287

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: SAFETY / SECURITY CRITICAL ROLES

Request and Answer:

Question

I should like to request the following information under the auspices of the FOIA: A definition/list of what are deemed to be Safety/Security Critical Roles as mentioned in your alcohol and substance abuse policies.

Answer

Please see the attached document detailing the Safety/Security Critical Roles.

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.

SAFETY/SECURITY CRITICAL ROLES

Police officers and members of police staff who fall into any of the categories below are deemed to hold safety or security critical roles. Safety Critical Roles are all subject to random and "with cause" testing. Security Critical Roles will be subject to random and 'with cause' testing. Any member who tests positive for drug use will be subject to disciplinary measures. The policy outlines the steps to be taken in the event of positive testing.

1. Safety Critical**Police Officers**

All police officers issued with firearms
 Police drivers
 Police Search Teams
 Air Support Dept
 CBRN
 Undercover Operations
 Test Purchase Officers
 Police officers working at height.

Police Staff

Police staff who use or come into contact with firearms
 Police staff drivers/pilots
 Police staff working at height
 Police staff involved in maintenance activities for buildings, equipment or vehicles.

2. Security Critical

The following roles will be subject to random and 'with cause' testing:

Heads of Departments;
 PSD – all staff;
 OHW Professionals;
 ACPO Personal Secretaries and Secretariat;
 SOCO – all staff;
 Firearms Enquiry Officers;
 Firearms Licensing Staff;
 Force Info/Security Managers;
 Analysts – all staff;
 Fingerprint Experts and Technical Staff;
 Forensic Experts and Technical Staff;

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Vetting – all staff;

Exhibit Officers.

Any police officer or member of police staff who has self-declared will also be subject to random testing.

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