



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-01523

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: STAFFING - SOUTH BELFAST

Request and Answer:

Question 1

The average annual cost of a Police SDO (Station Duty Officer) in the Enquiry Office in South Belfast.

Answer

There is no separate pay scale for Police Officers who perform the role of a station duty officer as part of their duties as a police officer. Therefore the information requested in question 1 is exempted under Section 21 Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means and can be accessed using the following link.

<http://www.police-information.co.uk/policepay.htm#constables>

Question 2

The average annual cost of a Civilian ASDO/SEA (Assistant Station Duty Officer – Station Enquiry Assistant) in the Enquiry Office in South Belfast.

Answer

The average annual cost of a Civilian SEA is £19,120.

Question 3

The difference between the SDO and SEA roles.

Answer

The main difference between the two roles is as follows:

A constable performing the role of SDO retains the full powers of the office of a Police Constable. This includes the power to carry out interviews, caution under PACE Legislation, and to arrest etc.

A Civilian SEA does not hold the office of constable and therefore cannot exercise the powers outlined above.

Question 4

Is there a shortfall of Police Officers on the ground in South Belfast?

Answer

B District establishment of police officers is currently up to strength. In B District there is a dedicated Neighbourhood policing team, response officers and other resources readily available who are all firmly committed to preventing and detecting crime and work in partnership with the community to make our neighbourhoods a safe place to live.

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.