



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00252

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: TRANSFER OF POLICE OFFICERS TO PSNI

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

Transferring of uniformed police officers from mainland UK police forces into the PSNI
Having looked at information requests in 2006 I can see that there has been information requested in relation to the transferring of uniformed police officers from mainland UK police forces into the PSNI; the webpage states that the information has been 'transferred to the PSNI'.

Question 1

Why must transferees compete in the recruitment process when they are already fully qualified trained and experienced police officers?

Answer

Unfortunately, we do not have a direct transfer mechanism at the rank of Constable because of the current temporary legislation governing appointment to the Service at this rank (50/ 50), and therefore serving officers must apply through the external process - though if successful, training is condensed and service is normally carried forward from previous force.

Question 2

Are there any plans to allow the transferring of police officers into the PSNI in the near future, if not then why not? The information surrounding this matter being released to me would be most appreciated.

Answer

The temporary legislation requiring us to appoint on a "50/50" basis is due for review in March 2010. The PSNI will not be in a position to offer direct transfer arrangements until the outcome of the review is known.

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.