



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-03318

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** TAKING OF DNA SAMPLES FROM POLICE

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

How many police officers and PCSOs have voluntarily logged their DNA profile or a sample of their DNA with your police force?

#### Question 3

How many, if known, logged their DNA sample but have since left the force?

#### Answers 1 & 3

PSNI do not at present have PCSO's. However, PSNI do require elimination DNA samples from police officers, who have attended scenes where DNA evidence is an issue, for elimination purposes. That requirement is on a case by case basis. However, a central register of police officers who have voluntarily logged their DNA profile is not maintained. Therefore PSNI are unable to provide the information for questions 1 and 3.

#### Question 2

What is the total number of police officers and PCSOs employed within the force?

#### Answer 2

This information can be found by accessing the following link to the PSNI website:

[http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates\\_statistics/updates\\_strength\\_of\\_police\\_service\\_statistics.htm](http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/updates_strength_of_police_service_statistics.htm)

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact 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](mailto: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 @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.