



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-00544

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Members Discipline with Community Background

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 and the answer to your questions are as follows:

Question 1

Since the inception of the PSNI, how many members have been convicted of a criminal offence or offences (clarified as where details have been reported to PSD) and the percentage catholic compared to other?

Answer

Roman Catholic - 29.89%

Other – 70.11%

Question 2

Since the inception of the PSNI how many members have been found guilty of a disciplinary offence, or offences and the percentage catholic compared to other?

Answer

Roman Catholic - 27.03%

Other – 72.97%

Please note these figures are for members found guilty of disciplinary offences at a formal misconduct hearing. To ascertain statistics of disciplinary offences which would have received some form of sanction from Line Management would require a check of every officers personnel record, and in certain cases Line Managers notebooks would need to be checked for further details. As the current strength of the PSNI is just under 7500, this would take in excess of the “appropriate fees limit” (£450), to locate the relevant records and retrieve the information specific to question 2.

Question 3

Since the inception of the PSNI how many members have been dismissed from the service, or required to resign and the percentage catholic, compared to other?

Answer

There were 102 Police who have been dismissed or required to resign since the inception of PSNI on 04/11/01.

The percentage breakdown is as follows -

Roman Catholic – 34.3%

Other – 65.7%

Question 4

I would also like to know what is the present make up of the service? Percentage catholic compared to other.

Answer

Roman Catholic – 2070 (25.04%)

Other – 6198 (74.96%)

Please note figures in questions 1 – 4 above do not include Student Officers who are not serving Police Officers until after their attestation i.e. 21 weeks.

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 letter.

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 @ www.psnj.police.uk

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