



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-03179

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Officers Convicted of Criminal Offences

Request and Answer:

I write in connection with your request for information, which was received by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) on the 8th November 2010, concerning police officers convicted of criminal offences where details have been reported to PSNI Professional Standards Department.

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information requested and I have decided to release the information you request.

Question 1

Would it be possible to have an update on the figures for the year 2010 to date, in relation to all previous questions F-2010-01651? Would it also be possible to supply the requested information in the same tabled format?

Answer

The table below outlines the number of PSNI officers who have been convicted at court of a criminal offence and reported to PSNI, Professional Standards Department in 2010. These officers were serving at the time of conviction but may not be serving now.

Year	Number of Police Officers	Nature of offence
2010	10	Driving offences x 9 Grievous Bodily Harm x 1

Question 2

In each of the categories of conviction outlined above, how many of those convicted went to jail?

Answer

One officer convicted of grievous bodily harm went to jail.

Question 3

How many of those who went to jail retained their jobs?

Answer

This officer did not retain their job. Resignation was tendered following the outcome of court proceedings.

Question 4

How many of those convicted were dismissed or required to resign from the job?

Answer

No officer was dismissed or required to resign, however three officers resigned prior to the outcome of a formal disciplinary hearing.

Question 5

How many of those convicted remain in the job?

Answer

Seven officers remain in the PSNI.

Whilst the Service takes extremely seriously any allegation of wrongdoing, the number of cases must be put into context of the number of officers serving in the PSNI, i.e. 8164 officers.

United Kingdom Police Services do not use generic systems to capture information. For this reason PSNI's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other Police Service.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Team 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 @ www.psni.police.uk .

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