



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F 2010 02214

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Rewards

Request and Answer:

Request

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to release information on how much your force offers and pays out annually in rewards

I would like to know, for the area (s) that you represent;

1. In the last year for which figures are available, how much was offered by the force in rewards for information leading to arrest or prosecution following specific incidents/offences.
2. In the last year for which figures are available, how much was paid out by the force in rewards for information leading to arrest or prosecution following specific incidents/offences.
3. How much of that paid out was for offences committed in that same year and how much for offences in previous years and which years did those amounts apply to.
4. In the previous year for which figures are available, how much was offered by the force in rewards for information leading to arrest or prosecution following specific incidents/offences.
5. In the previous year for which figures are available, how much was paid out by the force in rewards for information leading to arrest or prosecution following specific incidents/offences.
6. How much of that paid out was for offences committed in that same year and how much for offences in previous years and which years did those amounts apply to.

Answer

In terms of PSNI investigations any rewards being offered for information, must come from a 'third party' under clear guidelines contained in Service Procedure 09/10 (link below) which requires a signed affidavit through a solicitor. The PSNI, per se, does not offer or pay rewards in such circumstances.

http://www.psni.police.uk/service_procedure_0910.pdf

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.