



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-00487
Keyword: Finance
Subject: Claims Management

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) has now completed its search for the information you requested and the answers to your questions are as follows.

Question 1

Who insures PSNI vehicles?

Answer

QBE Insurance (Europe) limited.

Question 2

Does the PSNI use a Claims management company to deal with claims where Police vehicles are involved in Road Traffic collisions RTC's?

Answer

No. I have been advised by the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Transport Services branch that a claims management company is employed by the PSNI's Insurance Company and not the PSNI.

Question 3

If so what is the name of the Company and its office address?

Question 4

Is this a limited Company?

Question 5

How long has this company been providing the claims management service to the PSNI?

Question 6

Did this service go out to Tender if so when was this company successful?

Question 7

When is tender due for renewal?

Question 8

The total cost per financial year for the service provided by this company?

Question 9

What budget is used to pay for these services?

Answer

The Police Service of Northern Ireland do not use the services of a claims management company.

Question 10

What are the total legal costs resulting from RTC's during the last 12 months?

Answer

I have been advised by our Transport Services department that to provide a total bill with regard to this question would require an extensive search of records which are held by a claims management company and not the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The claims management company have advised that it would take a review of every claim where a payment was made and it is estimated it would take a minimum 35 hours to gather and report on this information which is well in excess of the time permitted to locate and provide the information as set down in FOI legislation. In any case, they are not obliged to release any information under Freedom of Information as they are not a public body and therefore not subject to the Act.

However, I can assist by providing you with information held by our Legal Services Department who deal with civil action claims from police officers who are claiming for personal injuries sustained as a result of a police Road Traffic Collision. We can therefore provide a partial answer to Question 10.

There has been a total of £87,192 paid in legal costs in the year Jan - Dec 09

Please note; there are 2 sets of legal fees paid in such cases - Plaintiff's legal costs and, if appropriate, a fee paid to the Crown Solicitor's Office by PSNI for defence of the case. The amount detailed above is a combined total. Also the amount paid reflects the point at which the matter was concluded and payment made rather than when the RTC actually occurred.

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.