



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01923
Keyword: Human Resources
Subject: PSNI Tactical Support Groups

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

How many male and female officers are currently in PSNI Tactical Support Group?

Answer

Male Officers = 411
Female Officers = 38

Question 2

How many of these male and female officers have been trained for public disorder duties?

Answer

A total of 449 Officers are all trained in PSP (Personal Safety Programme) and Public Order training.

Question 3

Please specify the types of training completed by male and female officers?

Answer

The training for all PSNI TSG Officers is the same. All newly appointed officers to TSG are put through a 4 day intensive training course before they go to their respective TSG units.

All officers receive refresher training on a regular basis and this is provided by Combined Operational Training and the Operational Support Department Training Team.

Types of Training Courses:

- Public Order Training
- Personal Safety Programme
- Search
- Conflict resolution

- Tactical patrolling
- First aid and community awareness
- Firearms Training
- Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear response
- Marine Response

TSG officers can avail of other service training packages linked to their core duties, including attendance at National Training Colleges such as Bramshill.

Question 4

Please confirm the minimum entry requirements for entry into TSGs for male and female officers?

Answer

Officers need to have successfully completed their two year probationary period and have been confirmed in the rank. Applicants must also possess a full valid driving licence and access to a mode of transport suitably insured for business use. Officers are also required in line with service policy to have a satisfactory sickness absence record.

Desirable although non-essential experience/qualifications relate to knowledge and/or experience in the core areas of public order, search, and tactical patrolling.

Question 5

Please confirm if there are any further minimum entry requirements for male and female officers on public disorder duties?

Answer

There are none.

The training for all PSNI TSG Officers is the same. All newly appointed officers to TSG are put through a 4 day intensive training course before they go to their respective TSG units.

All officers receive refresher training on a regular basis, this is provided by Combined Operational Training and the Operational Support Department Training Team.

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.psnipolice.uk

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