



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2010-00969

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Cost of Responding to Racially Motivated Incidents

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

I am writing to you to request, under the Freedom of Information act, details on the cost of the PSNI responding to the 385 racially motivated incidents in policing district B from April to December 2008/2009 and April to December 2009/2010. For which such figures are available?

#### Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland is not obliged to record this data and therefore it is not currently collated. To ascertain the cost of responding to these incidents would require each incident to be individually researched on the Command and Control computer system. Each Investigating Officer would also need to be contacted regarding the amount of time spent on their respective investigations and other calculations such as each officer's pay scale would have to be worked out.

This is not a reasonably practicable task as it would require the PSNI to search separate documents and sources containing the information to attempt to calculate a total which would most likely be inaccurate. This complex manipulation of information from original sources would amount to creation of new information not already held, a task which public authorities are not required to do in order to comply with a Freedom of Information request.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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