



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-03933

**Keyword:** Complaints/Discipline

**Subject:** Allegations of Racism Recorded by PSNI PSD

### 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. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

#### Question

Number of Police Officers appearing before a Misconduct Board to answer charge(s) of racism annually from 2005/06-2010/11.

#### Answer

Since 2005, one officer has appeared at a formal misconduct hearing for Breach of Article 6 of the PSNI Code of Ethics ([www.psni.police.uk/code\\_of\\_ethics\\_2008](http://www.psni.police.uk/code_of_ethics_2008)), relating to racist behaviour. The hearing took place in the 2006/2007 fiscal year.

#### Question

Number of Police Officers Guilty of charge(s) of racism by Misconduct Board annually from 2005/06-2010/11.

#### Answer

One officer, (please see response to question 1) was found guilty at a misconduct hearing of failing to use appropriate language and behaviour in their dealings with a member of the public. This officer received a disciplinary sanction of reduction in pay.

#### Question

Number of Police Officers found Not Guilty of charge(s) by Misconduct Board annually from 2005/06-2010/11.

#### Answer

Please see responses to questions 1 and 2 of your request, therefore not applicable.

#### Question

Number of internally arising complaints/allegations (made by another Police Officer or Civil Support employee) alleging Racism by a Police Officer received by PSNI PSD annually from 2005/06-

2010/11.

**Answer**

For the time-frame requested, PSNI Professional Standards Department has received no complaints/allegations (made by another police officer or police staff) alleging they were subject to racism by a police officer.

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](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.