



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-00016

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: PSNI Professional Standards Department Investigations

Request and Answer:

Question

Please provide a breakdown of the alleged offences per category of the 1,500 investigations being conducted by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department as referred to in FOI 'FOI-2010-03355'.

Provide any other information which may be available as referred to in paragraph two of the 'answer' in the reply of 01/12/2010, i.e., "some information may be available". Provide such information as is available please.

Answer

As outlined in previous correspondence, investigations carried out by Professional Standards Department are categorised per Articles 1 to 10 of the PSNI Code of Ethics. It should be noted however that even though an investigation may concern the breach of more than one Article, the categorisation for statistical purposes will remain by one Article only. There are also occasions when a file is opened and no potential breach of the code of ethics is relevant, e.g. an officer is subject of an investigation by another constabulary, or the content is in relation to policy.

The PSNI is governed by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (Conduct) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 – regulation 2. This can be viewed at www.opsi.gov.uk.

The standards set out in these Regulations are replicated into the PSNI Code of Ethical Standards Required of Police Officers. The current PSNI Code of Ethics may be viewed by visiting the website http://www.psni.police.uk/code_of_ethics_2008.pdf

Please see below pages numbered 1-8 outlining Professional Standard Department files from 2006 to 2010, broken down by Code Of Ethics and disciplinary outcome.

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.

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

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

PSNI Professional Standards Files 2006 to 2010

2006	
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 1 Professional Duty	
No Further Action	17
File to the Police Ombudsman	2
Resigned prior to discipline	3
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	2
Advice & Guidance	9
Management Discussion	6
Superintendent's Written Warning	15
Dismissed	1
Returned to District	12
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 2 Police Investigations	
No Further Action	1
File to the Police Ombudsman	1
Fine	1
Returned to District	2
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 3 Privacy and Confidentiality	
No Further Action	3
Management Discussion	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Reduced in Rank	1
Returned to District	8
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 4 Use of Force	
File to the Police Ombudsman	3
Returned to District	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 6 Equality	
No Further Action	4
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Returned to District	4
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 7 Integrity	
No Further Action	32

File to the Police Ombudsman	4
Resigned prior to discipline	10
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	2
Advice & Guidance	13
Management Discussion	3
Superintendent's Written Warning	14
Reprimand	1
Caution	2
Fine	2
Reduced in Pay	9
Required to Resign	4
Dismissed	4
Returned to District	14
Ongoing	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 8 Property	
No Further Action	4
File to the Police Ombudsman	2
Advice & Guidance	1
Returned to District	4
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 9 Fitness for Duty	
Advice & Guidance	1
Returned to District	1
Files where Code of Ethics is not applicable	19
2007	
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 1 Professional Duty	
No Further Action	16
File to the Police Ombudsman	2
Resigned prior to discipline	2
Advice & Guidance	18
Management Discussion	7
Superintendent's Written Warning	20
Caution	3
Fine	5
Reduced in Pay	5
Reduced in Rank	1
Required to Resign	2
Dismissed	1
Returned to District	10
Ongoing	3

Disciplinary Sanctions Article 2 Police Investigations	
No Further Action	1
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Dismissed	1
Returned to District	1
Ongoing	3
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 3 Privacy and Confidentiality	
No Further Action	5
Advice & Guidance	3
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Caution	2
Reduced in Pay	1
Ongoing	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 4 Use of Force	
No Further Action	2
File to the Police Ombudsman	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Returned to District	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 6 Equality	
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	1
Advice & Guidance	2
Returned to District	2
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 7 Integrity	
No Further Action	28
File to the Police Ombudsman	2
Resigned prior to discipline	13
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	1
Advice & Guidance	8
Management Discussion	2
Superintendent's Written Warning	12
Fine	2
Reduced in Pay	3
Reduced in Rank	1
Required to Resign	6
Dismissed	4

Returned to District	10
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 8 Property	
No Further Action	3
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	4
Fine	2
Returned to District	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 9 Fitness for Duty	
No Further Action	1
Resigned prior to discipline	2
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Files where Code of Ethics is not applicable	7
2008	
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 1 Professional Duty	
No Further Action	27
File to the Police Ombudsman	1
Resigned prior to discipline	6
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	1
Advice & Guidance	19
Management Discussion	7
Superintendent's Written Warning	15
Required to Resign	1
Returned to District	6
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 2 Police Investigations	
Resigned prior to discipline	1
Advice & Guidance	2
Superintendent's Written Warning	4
Required to Resign	1
Returned to District	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 3 Privacy and Confidentiality	
Advice & Guidance	4
Ongoing	2
Disciplinary Sanctions	

Article 4 Use of Force	
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 5 Detained Persons	
Returned to District	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 6 Equality	
No Further Action	2
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Reduced in Rank	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 7 Integrity	
No Further Action	49
File to the Police Ombudsman	1
Resigned prior to discipline	16
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	2
Advice & Guidance	11
Management Discussion	5
Superintendent's Written Warning	10
Caution	2
Fine	6
Reduced in Pay	4
Required to Resign	4
Dismissed	3
Returned to District	1
Ongoing	5
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 8 Property	
No Further Action	3
Advice & Guidance	3
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Reduced in Pay	1
Ongoing	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 10 Duty of Supervisors	
Reduced in pay	1
Required to Resign	1
Files where Code of Ethics is not applicable	40

2009	
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 1 Professional Duty	
No Further Action	21
Resigned prior to discipline	4
Advice & Guidance	23
Management Discussion	5
Superintendent's Written Warning	21
Fine	1
Reduced in Rank	1
Required to Resign	2
Dismissed	1
Ongoing	7
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 2 Police Investigations	
No Further Action	3
Management Discussion	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	7
Reduced in Pay	2
Required to Resign	1
Dismissed	1
Returned to District	1
Ongoing	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 3 Privacy and Confidentiality	
No Further Action	3
Advice & Guidance	4
Management Discussion	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Reduced in Pay	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 4 Use of Force	
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 6 Equality	
No Further Action	1
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 7 Integrity	
No Further Action	25
File to the Police Ombudsman	

Resigned prior to discipline	12
Charges dismissed/withdrawn/Not guilty	
Advice & Guidance	17
Management Discussion	4
Superintendent's Written Warning	8
Reprimand	
Caution	1
Fine	2
Reduced in Pay	3
Reduced in Rank	
Required to Resign	4
Dismissed	2
Returned to District	1
Ongoing	13
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 8 Property	
No Further Action	4
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	3
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 10 Duty of Supervisors	
Resigned prior to discipline	1
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Files where Code of Ethics is not applicable	47
2010	
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 1 Professional Duty	
No Further Action	12
Advice & Guidance	8
Management Discussion	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	4
Returned to District	1
Ongoing	45
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 2 Police Investigations	
No Further Action	4
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	3
Reduced in Pay	1
Ongoing	12

Disciplinary Sanctions Article 3 Privacy and Confidentiality	
No Further Action	4
Advice & Guidance	3
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Ongoing	10
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 4 Use of Force	
No Further Action	1
Advice & Guidance	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	5
Ongoing	5
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 5 Detained Persons	
Ongoing	1
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 6 Equality	
No Further Action	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	2
Ongoing	3
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 7 Integrity	
No Further Action	10
Resigned prior to discipline	3
Advice & Guidance	12
Management Discussion	4
Superintendent's Written Warning	6
Ongoing	76
Disciplinary Sanctions Article 8 Property	
No Further Action	1
Superintendent's Written Warning	1
Ongoing	2
Files where Code of Ethics is not applicable	40