



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F2011 03007

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Helicopter Pilot Positions

### Request and Answer:

#### Questions

The PSNI Air Support unit advertised through Grafton for the position of temporary helicopter pilot for the unit with a closing date of 31 May 2011, unfortunately I missed the deadline. You were unable to fill the position and re-advertised with a closing date of 24 June. Despite requests to Grafton they are unable to confirm if the position has been filled.

Therefore can you supply the following information.

- 1.Has the position been filled
- 2.How long is this temporary position for
3. Why has a temporary position been offered a full time contract which included paid rest days and holiday pay for what would be a self employed pilot.
- 4.Has the successful candidate ever been interviewed for any other pilot positions with the Air Support unit
- 5.Did the successful candidate come form Northern Ireland
- 6.Was the successful candidate, if any, known to the Chief Pilot prior to advertising this position
7. Do you intend to advertise this position as full time within the next year.

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.

#### Answer

Due to vacancies, PSNI advertised through Grafton for temporary (long term requirement – approximately 9 months) for both Fixed Wing and Helicopter Pilots. This is separate from the ad-hoc requirement which is sometimes necessitated due to critical operational issues.

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Answer to Question 1

Yes

Answer to Question 2

For approximately 9 months or until the positions are substantively filled.

Answer to Question 3

There is no information held by PSNI as this is a matter for Grafton ESP and the terms and conditions they have in place for their Associates.

Answer to Question 4

There is no information held by PSNI.

Answer to Question 5

One candidate is from Northern Ireland and one is not.

Answer to Question 6

One candidate submitted a CV early in 2010 and they subsequently instigated contacts over the ensuing period however when it transpired that they might be applying for a role, steps were taken to ensure any further contact was made through the appropriate agency.

Answer to Question 7

Yes.

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.psnipolice.uk](http://www.psnipolice.uk)

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