



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-00321

Keyword: Finance

Subject: Flights for Sir Hugh Orde's Family Paid For By PSNI

Request and Answer:

Question

When Sir Hugh Orde was Chief Constable of the PSNI it is established that he had a provision in his contract for his family members to have flights paid for by the PSNI.

1. For each financial year that Sir Hugh was Chief Constable with your force please state (i) the total initial cost to the PSNI of these flights and (ii) the airport outside of Northern Ireland that they were made to or from.
2. Which flights were reimbursed by the Chief Constable to the tune of 50% of the total cost and how much was paid over by him in total as part of this provision.

Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the request is a repeated request) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the decision has been taken to refuse your request as it has been deemed a 'repeated request'.

Section 14 (2) of the Act states that where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

Our records indicate that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has previously complied with a substantially similar request made by you on 28 January 2011. It is clear that a reasonable interval has not elapsed between your requests.

If you have any queries regarding your request please write or contact the Freedom of Information Team on 028 9070 0164. Please remember to quote the reference number listed above in any future communications with the Freedom of Information Team.

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.