



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-03706

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Pass Rates for ACPO Firearms Assessment

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) 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

I wish to make a FOI request regarding pass rates for the current ACPO Firearms Assessment Close Protection Officers' Course being held at the Tactical Firearms Unit at Garnerville.

Answer

The process has changed this year in that a qualification shoot would need to be successfully completed before an officer can attend the specific Close Protection officer course. The pass rate is set by ACPO TAM at 90%. A 'certificate' is signed by the Chief Firearms Instructor of the student's police force to take to the centre running the ACPO Close Protection officer course to evidence they shoot to the required standard. Without this prerequisite, plus evidence of a first aid qualification and current driving licence, they would be unable to attend the national course.

The pass rate for PSNI students passing the exam is currently 23.18%.

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.

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.