



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-01627

**Keyword:** Human Resources

**Subject:** Three Most Common Causes Of Injuries To Police Officers

**Request and Answer:**

### Question 1

The three most common causes of injuries to police officers on duty in your force in the two most recent financial years for which you have figures (preferably 2010/11 and 2009/10).

### Question 2

For each of the three causes please could you tell me the number of occasions each one has occurred in each year.

### Question 3

Could you also tell me the total number of injuries recorded by your force in both 2010/11 and 2009/10.

### Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate costs limit" under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450 (!8 hours).

PSNI Central Human Resources were initially contacted with regard to your request however they advised that the function that may assist in obtaining a response to you request had been devolved to each Human Resources office in the PSNI Districts and Departments.

I contacted the 8 Districts and 6 Departments in an attempt to retrieve available information however the districts advised that this information was not held on specific spreadsheets and they would need to carry out manual checks of individual records and run several reports to collate any information. Allowing an average of 2 hours per question, as some districts have much more personnel, the time taken would be increased, this would equate to approximately 48 hours to retrieve for the districts alone which is in excess of the time permitted by legislation which is set at 18 hours.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit however the nature and structure of the information unfortunately makes this impossible.

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

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](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.