



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-01139

**Keyword:** Human Resources

**Subject:** Overseas Training Courses

### Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information.

#### Question 1

Could I have the number of overseas training courses officers went on last year January 1 2010 to December 31 2010 and how much each cost? Please list country – with number of officers along with cost?

#### Question 2

Could I have the number of overseas training courses officers went on in 2009, from January 1 2009 to December 31 2009, and how much each cost? Please list country, number of officers, along with cost?

#### Question 3

How many overseas training courses have been planned for this year and have already taken place, from January 2011 to December 31 2011.

Please list country, number of officers, along with cost?

#### 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 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 (18 hours).

This information is not held centrally and therefore it was necessary to canvass all districts and departments within PSNI. One business area has estimated that retrieval of this information would exceed 18 hours. Training co-ordinators have responsibility for booking training courses for their staff; the number and locality of training courses are not recorded on the Personnel System. To provide this information would require a manual trawl of all travel booking forms to identify the location and assess the cost.

It is estimated that the total retrieval process would take approximately 67 hours which would greatly exceed the cost limit of 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. It may be possible to provide the information, subject to the relevant exemptions, from some of the districts within the cost limit.

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.