



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-2053

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Training Provided by PSNI to Foreign Forces

Request and Answer:

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.

Question 1

Foreign police units that have received training from PSNI in the use of less lethal equipment (including but not limited to; electroshock devices; chemical irritant devices and kinetic impact devices, between 1st January 2008 and the current date.

Clarification was provided that for the purposes of this enquiry An Garda Siochana are not considered to be a foreign police unit.

Answer

PSNI have not delivered this type of training to any Foreign Police Units.

Question 2

Foreign police units that have received training from PSNI in crowd control techniques and / or management, between 1st January 2008 and the current date.

In each case, the details of the length of the training, the location of training and the units trained.

Answer

The PSNI Public Order Training Team has delivered the following crowd control techniques and/or management training since January 2008:

In January 2008 for a total of 2 weeks, 1 PSNI officer was seconded to NPIA as part of a UK team in training Conflict Management Model (CMM), English tactics at Nicosia in the Cypriot policies in control techniques and public order.

From April to July 2008 for a total of 5 weeks (which included 4 weeks public order tactical training and 1 week command training), 8 PSNI officers were used but spread over the 5 weeks and delivered training to Rendorseg, Hungarian public order Police at Chopak and Budapest in Hungary. This was part of an approved contract with a company called NI-CO.

In March 2010 for a total of 2 weeks, 2 PSNI officers were seconded to NPIA as part of a UK team to deliver the NPIA strategic command course to Ethiopian Senior Police Commanders in Addis Adoba.

In October and November 2010, 3 PSNI officers for a total of 6 weeks (which included 4 weeks command training and 2 weeks public order training) were part of an Anglo –Irish NPIA run team who for 2 weeks each delivered training to the Ugandan public order Police and Commanders in Kampala.

Question

The decision making criteria applied when considering whether to train foreign police forces.

Answer

The deployment or training is agreed by PSNI HR department who then identify the appropriate PSNI officers suited to the brief requirements.

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.