



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-00828
Keyword: Operational Policing
Subject: Use of Bicycles by PSNI

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

I would like to obtain information on the use of bicycles within the police force.

How many bicycles are used in your force and how many police officers are trained to use bicycles as part of their daily duties?

Answer

The PSNI currently have 242 bicycles. There are 573 trained officers.

Question 2

Do bicycles benefit the force and in what way?

Answer

Under the Freedom of Information Act this question is not a valid request for recorded information held by the Police Service of Northern Ireland. However, PSNI can advise the following:

Bicycle patrols are recommended by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) as a means of increasing visibility, accessibility and familiarity. In a number of Districts, police officers have been increasingly deploying the use of bicycles in order to move about, whilst still retaining close contact with members of the public.

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.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.