



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2012-02296

**Keyword:** Complaints/Discipline

**Subject:** Police Officers Convicted Of Criminal Offences

### 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 and the answers to your questions are as follows.

#### Question 1

Since 2005, how many police officers have been convicted of criminal offences?

#### Answer

Since 2005, one hundred and sixty-seven police officers received a criminal conviction. It should be noted that this figure reflects the number of officers who were serving at the date of conviction but may no longer be serving now.

#### Question 2

What is the nature of these offences?

#### Answer

The nature of the offences were as follows:

Motoring offences, Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm, attempted murder, perverting the course of justice, Breach of Firearms (NI) Order, Breach of non-molestation order, drinking in public place, indecent behaviour, sexual offence, possession of class C drug, false accounting, Grievous Bodily Harm, Breach of Data Protection Act, common assault, breach of litter order, smoking in a smoke free place, malicious wounding with intent, misfeasance in public office, breach of dogs order, fraud, theft, riding a pedal cycle without due care and attention.

#### Question 3

How many of these officers were dismissed or required to resign?

#### Answer

At the date of your request, thirty-one officers who received a criminal conviction were dismissed or required to resign. A further thirty-three officers who received criminal convictions were permitted to leave the Service prior to Disciplinary proceedings taking place.

#### Question 4

How many of these officers are still serving?

**Answer**

At the date of your request seventy- two officers are still serving. It should be noted that a number of these officers are due to appear before a formal misconduct hearing and therefore the outcome of disciplinary proceedings will determine if these officers remain in the PSNI.

Whilst the PSNI take extremely seriously any wrongdoing by a police officer, the number of cases should be put into context of the average strength of the PSNI during the time-frame requested i.e. 8700 officers.

The information supplied has been compiled by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department which has responsibility for internal discipline relating to police officers.

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](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.