



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F 2012 00343

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Operation Ballast/Stafford - Arrests

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

How many police officers have been arrested as part of operation Ballast/Stafford? (that's the investigation into the UVF gang in Mount Vernon)

#### Question 2

Please state the outcome of those arrests?

#### Question 3

Of the police officers arrested as part of operation Stafford/Ballast, please state what they were questioned over.

#### Answer

Operation Ballast was a Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland led investigation therefore the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does not hold the information to which you seek access.

You may wish to contact the Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland for information regarding police officers arrested as part of Operation Ballast. Link attached below:

[www.policeombudsman.org](http://www.policeombudsman.org)

Operation Stafford is a PSNI investigation and no police officers have been arrested.

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.