



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-01199

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Information on the Charging Policies within the 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

In accordance with the Information Act 2000 Article 1, Section 1(a) we would like to receive up to date information on the charging policies within the PSNI. For instance, what policies and procedures are currently operational within the PSNI.

We have searched the PSNI website under "Our Policies and Procedures" and the information does not satisfy our request for knowledge.

Answer

The PSNI does not currently have an active policy on charging. Instead charging decisions are guided by relevant sections of Police & Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 and associated codes of practice.

For more information on the Police and Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 please see the following link;

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1989/1341/contents>

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.