



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-01324

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Newtownards Police Station

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

Have there ever been any discussions about selling or transferring Newtownards Police Station to another government department or agency?

Answer

No.

Question 2

Have there ever been any discussions about another government department or agency using Newtownards Police Station.

Question 3

Has there ever been any discussions about another government agency or department utilising the cells in Newtownards Police Station.

Answer

In response to question 2 and 3 Estate Services has advised that ESBU met with representatives of the UK Borders Agency (UKBA) to view Newtownards Custody Suite, to assess its potential as a custody facility for the detention of immigrants detained who had swallowed drugs. However, UKBA did not progress this idea.

Question 4

Have there ever been any discussions about the PSNI vacating Newtownards Police Station.

Answer

No.

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.