



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2012-00011

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** UK and European Employment Law

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

Regarding the issue of rehiring ex police officers following their acceptance of early retirement a BBC News report comments that "In a statement a PSNI spokesperson said: "The Police Service of Northern Ireland will continue, as it always has done, to follow UK and European employment legislation. As an employer, we are duty bound to do so. This legislation does not allow discrimination against any individual based on their former employment."

My question is: precisely which UK and European legislation is the PSNI spokesperson referring to in this context?

#### Answer

The PSNI spokesperson was not referring to one specific piece of legislation but was making reference to employment law in general, all of which stipulates that all recruitment must be fair.

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.