



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-02270

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Officers Disciplined For Animal Cruelty

Request and Answer:

Question 1

I wish to know how many officers from your force have faced disciplinary action/criminal charges for causing unnecessary suffering to a force animal, for example police dogs or police horses in the last five years? By five years, I mean from April 2009 to the present day.

Question 2

What action did the officer face?

Question 3

What was the outcome of the action? e.g. dismissal

Question 4

Please give a summary of the offence or alleged offence? For example left a dog in a hot car

Question 5

Did the animal live or die?

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested and the answer to your questions is as follows:

No police officer has faced disciplinary action/criminal charges for causing unnecessary suffering to a force animal in the past five years. The PSNI does not utilise horses.

The information has been supplied by PSNI Discipline Branch, Service Improvement 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.

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.