



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-05202

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: IT Department

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How many staff is based across your organisation?

Question 2

How many staff is based within your IT Department?

Question 3

Please provide an organisational chart for both IT and the wider organisation showing all individuals with Management responsibilities together with number of direct reports?

Question 4

The budget spent on staff development for internal training and also via external training providers in the budget year 2013/2014? Please reflect both IT specific budget and budget for the rest of the organisation.

Question 5

The proposed budget spend for staff development for 2014/15? Please reflect both IT specific budget and budget for the rest of the organisation.

Question 6

Please provide a specific breakdown listing the training providers used and total spend per provider.

Question 7

Details of any Software Licence Agreements in place with Technology Vendors highlighting expiry/renewal dates for each.

Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate costs limit" under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is

currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

I have been advised by our IT Department that to answer question 7 would require retrieval and manual inspection of at least 6 types of software licence agreements (i.e. line of business software, embedded software, security software, web software, non ICS software and national software) used within PSNI, which covers at least 300 software products, allowing 15 minutes per item would vastly exceed the 18 hour cost limit allowed under FOI legislation.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit. I have been informed by the Departments concerned that they can answer Questions 1 – Question 3 for the whole organisation and IT department and Questions 4 and 5 in relation to the IT department within the 18 hour limit.

I have also been informed by the Department concerned that they may be able to answer the 'licence' question, Question 7 by the end of the financial year.

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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.