



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2014-00235

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Register of Notifiable Memberships

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

How many officers have declared a notifiable membership?

Of these declarations, please list the organisations/memberships and the number of officers who have declared themselves to be members.

#### Answer

Section 51 of the Police Act (Northern Ireland) 2000 places an obligation on officers to declare whether or not they are a member of an organisation which may reasonably be perceived as affecting an officer's ability to discharge their duties impartially.

In 2013, 381 PSNI officers declared they had a membership as follows.

Organisation	Number of officers
Ancient Order of Hibernians	1
Apprentice Boys of Derry	19
Grand Order of Freemasons	232
Independent Orange Order	4
Knights of St Columbanus	1
Loyal Orange Order	91
Royal Blacks Preceptory	46
Other Organisation (includes church groups, voluntary groups, Forces associations and sporting associations)	31

The total number of organisations is more than the number of officers, as an officer may be a member of more than one organisation.

The information supplied has been compiled by Discipline Branch, Service Improvement Department, which currently administers the Notifiable Membership Scheme on behalf of the Chief Constable.

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.