



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-00279

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Body Worn Cameras

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How many body worn cameras (bodycams) are currently in use by your force? If possible please supply this data for 2015 (current or most recent figure), January 2014 and January 2013.

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.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) currently has 46 body worn cameras in use (since June 2014). Two body worn cameras were used in 2013 and these two cameras are not included in the 46 currently in use.

Question 2

Are there plans to increase the number of bodycams in the near future? In which case can we know the details please?

Answer

The use of body worn cameras is currently being piloted within 1 PSNI policing district. The pilot will conclude on 31 March 2015 at which time the findings will be evaluated and documented in consideration of a full roll out within the PSNI. The trial of the cameras started in June 2014.

Question 3

How much money has been spent on body worn cameras since January 2014? Please include any money provided by the force, provided through the Home Office innovation fund or through other sources.

Answer

The PSNI has spent approximately £40,000 from January 2014 to January 2015. No funding has been provided through the Home Office innovation fund or through other sources.

Question 4

Under current guidance from the College of Policing any footage obtained from body worn cameras should be deleted after 31 days unless it is needed as evidence. Could you tell us how many times,

in 2014, bodycam footage was retained for more than 31 days for evidential purposes?

Answer

339 pieces of footage have been retained for evidential purposes. Please note that the body worn camera trial started in June 2014.

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.psnj.police.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.