



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-01257

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Sick Leave In The Last Financial Year

Request and Answer:

Question

I would like to know how many officers took sick leave for depression, anxiety, stress or post traumatic stress in the last financial year (ending April 2015).

By this I mean where any of the terms 'depression', 'anxiety' or 'stress' or 'post traumatic stress' appear in the description of the officer's illness.

If possible, it would be useful for the information for each year to be broken down by rank, with a general description of the illness.

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.

Please find below a table showing the number of police officers that took a period of sick leave in the last financial year (1st April 2014 to the 31st March 2015) broken down by illness type as requested.

The rank of the officers has not been provided within this table as the inclusion of low level data regarding ranks would trigger an exemption under the FOI Act as the information may enable the identification of particular individuals.

Illness Type	Officers Requiring Period of Sick Leave
Anxiety	74
Depression	47
Other mental disorders	2
Other Stress	246
Post natal debility/depression	12
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	32
Total	413

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.