



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-02359

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Vetting Policy

Request and Answer:

Question

What is the vetting policy when it comes to applicants who have a high enough score on the merit list that would guarantee them a place at Garnerville as a student officer, but their vetting will take longer than expected? For example, if the applicants vetting needs sent to An Garda Siochana for those applying from the Republic of Ireland or, if there is a similar unavoidable delay in the vetting of an applicant.

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 PSNI receives a list of successful candidates in merit order following the completion of the initial selection process. This merit list dictates the order in which the candidates progress to the other stages of the recruitment process i.e. Vetting, Physical Competence Assessment, Medical, Substance Misuse Test and Online Learning.

No candidate is guaranteed an offer of entry to the Police Training College until they have passed all five stages of the recruitment process. A candidate's position of offer is dependent on how they progress through all of these stages including vetting, which may take longer for some depending on individual circumstances.

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.