



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2016-00088

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Cost of Pastor McConnell Case

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

Please can you provide us with the costs to the PSNI in financial terms of the Pastor James McConnell case?

I am hoping you can render the man-hours devoted to it into a financial estimate, as has been the case with other matters before (such as with the Twaddell protests).

#### Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1) (a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

There were a total of 163 Duty Time hours worked by the Crime Support Team (1 Constable, 1 Sergeant) in relation to the Pastor James McConnell case. However, there may have been other hours worked by individuals within the PSNI which are not separately identifiable and as such may materially underestimate the amount shown below.

The Financial cost, using an average of a Constable and Sergeant Rate was £4,485

Please note that the information requested is not recorded / documented and the cost was created for the purposes of responding to your FOI request. Therefore this estimated cost does not include additional costs i.e. officers checking notebooks, overtime claims / hours etc. Therefore the estimated 163 Time hours would materially understate the real PSNI costs incurred in respect of the Pastor McConnell case.

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.