



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2108-01212

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Drugs Misuse Staff and Officers From 1st January 2017

Request and 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.

Request 1

How many of your officers have been disciplined for misusing, misappropriating, distributing or possessing drugs – illegal or legal – since 1 January 2017, and how many lost their jobs.

Answer

One police officer has been disciplined for drugs related offences since 1st January 2017. The officer did not retain their job within the PSNI. It should be noted that this figure does not include officers who were under investigation for drugs related offences and resigned prior to the conclusion of any misconduct proceedings during this period.

Request 2

How many of your non-officer staff have been disciplined for misusing, misappropriating, distributing or possessing drugs – illegal or legal – since 1 January 2017, and how many lost their jobs.

Answer

The information available for Police Staff disciplinary outcomes since 1st January 2017 suggests that none of these meet the criteria outlined in the question above.

Request 3

The rank of the most senior officer disciplined.

Answer

The rank of the most senior officer disciplined was 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.

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.