



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-02415

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Sexual Misconduct by Police Officers

Request and Answer:

Your request for information below has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold the information you have requested and this is being provided to you.

Request 1

I would like to know how many of your police officers have being found to have 'committed gross misconduct' by an Officer Misconduct Hearing due to, or involving, a sexual misconduct, in the last 3 years, from the date of reply.

Answer

During the past 3 years a total of 4 officers have been found guilty at a misconduct hearing of offences comprising sexual misconduct.

Request 2

I would also like to know how many of the above instances resulted in the following possible outcomes:

- Dismissal without notice
- Final written warning
- Extension added to a final written warning
- Written warning
- Management advice
- No further action

Answer

The following sanctions were applied in the cases mentioned at request 1:

Fined (1 officer)
Required to resign (2 officers)
Dismissed (1 officer)

It should be noted that these outcomes differ from those listed in the request as the cases were dealt with under the 2000 Conduct Regulations, where sanctions differ to some degree from the 2016 Conduct Regulations.

This response has been provided by Professional Standards, Legacy & Justice Department.

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.psnipolice.uk

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