



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-02951

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: 50/50 Recruitment of Police Officers

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 and the decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Request 1

Please provide confirmation as to the date when recruitment of police officers within the RUC/PSNI became subject to a 50/50 requirement.

Answer

The first recruitment competition for Student Officers subject to 50:50 legislation was advertised in March 2001, with the first training course commencing 4th November 2001 i.e. the inception of the PSNI.

Request 2

Please confirm the percentage of Roman Catholic and Protestant applicants for the RUC/PSNI between the commencement of the 50/50 requirement up to 31 December 2004.

Answer

Please see the table provided below.

		Roman Catholic	Non Roman Catholic
		%	%
COMP 1	Applicants	34.78	65.22
Advertised March 2001	Appointees	50.16	49.84
COMP 2	Applicants	38.45	61.55
Advertised September 2001	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 3	Applicants	35.11	64.89
Advertised March 2002	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 4	Applicants	33.58	66.42
Advertised September 2002	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 5	Applicants	36.22	63.78
Advertised March 2003	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 6	Applicants	35.23	64.77
Advertised September 2003	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 7	Applicants	34.34	65.66
Advertised March 2004	Appointees	50.00	50.00
COMP 8	Applicants	34.78	65.22
Advertised September 2004	Appointees	50.00	50.00

Request 3

Please confirm the percentage of each religion who were successful in their applications to RUC/PSNI between the commencement of the 50/50 requirement and 31 December 2004.

Answer

Please refer to the table provided in response to Request 2 above.

Please note: under 50:50 legislation, the community background of applicants/appointees was reported on as being either Roman Catholic or Non Roman Catholic.

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.