



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01634

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Part Time Reserve

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.

This request is for information regarding POPT, specific questions are as follows;

Request 1

What is the correct title for part time officers (not full time officer working part time hours)?

Answer

The correct title is Part Time Reserve (PTR).

Request 2

Why do some documents refer to PTR and others POPT?

Answer

In 2004/05 the PSNI sought to increase the number of Part time reserve officers in response to a recommendation made in the Patten report. The term police officer part time was introduced at that time to signify this change. However the regulations which set out the terms and conditions for this group of officers continued to refer to this group as the Part Time Reserve.

Request 3

Was there a policy decision to change the title?

Answer

Following a review of the management of this group of officers undertaken in 2015, there was a decision to remove the nomenclature of Police Officer Part Time and use the naming convention identified in the regulatory framework of Part Time Reserve.

Request 4

If so, when was the decision taken and on what basis?

Answer

This decision was taken by the Service Executive Board in May 2015 on the basis that the correct title as identified in regulation is Part Time Reserve.

Request 5

Was any consultation carried out with the officers concerned?

Answer

No, however the rationale for this decision was discussed with representatives of the PTR who met with then ACC Martin.

Request 6

How many POPTs were employed in each of the financial years 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18

Answer

Please see the data requested for PTR which is provided in the table below:

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Current
Total Numbers	462	381	327	291	278

Request 7

How many hours were worked by POPTs in each financial year in the same period broken down by District

Answer

Please see the table below which provides the PTR data for the 'Old Districts'

	A District	B District	C District	D District	E District	F District	G District	H District
2015 / 16	1,994	2,933	3,765	5,305	2,510	1,439	1,672	6,410

Please see the table below which provides the data for the 'New Districts'

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L
2015 / 16	10,706	4,507	3,910	1,540	3,414	669	2,124	2,954	2,774	2,774	2,547
2016 / 17	16,896	7,030	5,641	2,311	4,151	1,221	3,416	6,333	7,809	5,736	4,638
2017 / 18	10,078	5,397	4,755	1,811	3,571	875	3,255	4,498	6,153	4,332	4,964

Please note the total in 2015 /2016 = 63,944, 2016 / 2017 = 65,181 and in 2017/ 2018 = 49,686.

Request 8

How many POPT were dismissed in each of the above financial years for failing to meet the minimum 144 hours (by District)?

Answer

Please see below table outlining the available information stored within the HR system in respected of the number of PTR officers whose services were terminated for each of the financial years specified within the request.

Financial Year / District	A	B	C	D	E	H	J	Total Termination Of Service
2015/16	13	3	1	2	1	1	2	23
2016/17	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	8
2017/18	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Total	16	5	3	2	1	1	5	33

Please note that the information around District is based on the current structure within the PSNI which was introduced in October 2015 in alignment with the Review of Public Administration (RPA).

Request 9

What type of duties were performed by POPT during each of the above years – broad groupings (neighbourhood beat/patrol, CT/Security patrol, night time economy, events, surge operations)

Answer

As a result of the review undertaken the duties of a PTR were identified as:

The work of Part Time Reserve (PTR) officer will primarily be to:

- Undertake duties in support of policing the night time economy;
- Undertake duties to support surge activity and the management of major incidents;
- Undertake duties at parades, public and/or major events which require a policing input.

The purpose of the PTR role is to supplement the main body of PSNI officers in the protection of life and property, the prevention and detection of crime and the maintenance of public order. They will identify, monitor and respond to community issues, keeping people safe by policing with the community.

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.

