



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-01329

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Cyber Forensics

### 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

I am currently working on a Masters degree dissertation in the subject of Cyber Forensics. Consequently would you please be kind enough to answer the following questions as part of a Freedom of Information (FOI) Request?

Do you have dedicated mobile device forensic examiners?

#### Answer

Yes.

#### Request 2

What is their level of education and training?

#### Answer

The level of education and training will vary by officer and will be role appropriate.

#### Request 3

What specialist training and qualifications do they have for mobile device examinations?

#### Answer

All officers receive training relevant to their role. This will range from training related to initial logical examination of mobile devices through to advanced 'chip off' examinations. Training needs change in conjunction with emerging technologies.

#### Request 4

How many devices per annum receive a full physical and logical examination?

#### Answer

The PSNI examine approximately 8,000 mobile devices annually.

**Request 5**

How many devices per annum receive only a full physical examination?

**Answer**

We do not hold statistics relating to the breakdown between physical and logical examinations.

**Request 6**

Do you have specially trained analysts who can recover and interpret data not covered by industry standard tools?

**Answer**

Yes.

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.