



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01501

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: PSNI Cyclist

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

Do the PSNI have police cyclists and if so how many and for what purpose/events?

If yes to question 1,

Answer

Yes.

Training records prior to 2013 are not held on record; however I can advise that from 2013 PSNI have trained a total of 164 Officers.

PSNI cyclists are used in the Districts for high visibility patrolling on police marked bicycles for a range of patrol activities.

Request 2A

What are the selection criteria for choosing a bicycle brand for use by police officers?

Answer

The standard of police bicycle is determined by the technical specification which lists general requirements, design features and lighting requirements, the specification does not make any reference to brands. Samples compliant with the specification would then be evaluated by a selection of operational PSNI officers, and a contract awarded by means of the procurement process.

Request 2B

What brand of bicycle do the PSNI use?

Answer

The PSNI have several brands of bicycle currently in use including Genesis, Commencal and Specialized.

Request 3

What brand of cycle clothing do the PSNI use?

Answer

Not applicable. The PSNI cycle clothing is not branded.

Request 4

How often are the PSNI's bicycles replaced?

Answer

The PSNI do not have a set lifespan for a bicycle, however three main factors when considering disposal/replacement would be the general appearance of the bicycle, an increase in maintenance costs, safety concerns over road worthiness.

Request 5

What training do PSNI cyclists undertake before being allowed out on duty as cyclists?

Answer

Officers are trained on a course which is currently 2 days.

The course is based on:

- CPO Police & Emergency Services Cycle Training and It has been produced in consultation with the Department for Transport, who are responsible for the National Standard for Cycle Training.
- Bikeability level 3

The course is delivered by PSNI Traffic and Driver Training Unit instructors who completed a Mountain bike Instructors Award Scheme (MIAS)

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.

