



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-02160

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Policy/Training Documents for Investigations

### Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested. However please find a link in the answer below that will provide the information requested.

#### Request 1

Could you provide me with copies of any policy/training documents which lay out whether a crime should be investigated further? I've given some examples of the kind of thing I'm after, below, but my request is not simply limited to these examples:

#### Request 2

Please can you provide me with a copy of the assessment criteria used by staff to determine whether a reported crime should be investigated further?

#### Request 3

Please can you provide me with a copy of the policy document showing what crimes are eligible to potentially not be investigated further? It might cover, for example, if there is a value under which thefts are eligible to potentially not be investigated further.

#### Request 4

Please can you provide me with any documents made available to staff explaining/training/discussing what level of investigation is appropriate for a crime, and when a crime should be investigated further?

#### Request 5

Please can you provide me with any documents covering how staff should make the decision whether or not to investigate further, when preparing an Action/Investigation plan. By this I mean any document, perhaps - but not limited to - one used in training or in practice, which discusses, gives examples, or outlines a procedure around on what occasions a crime should be investigated further, and when it should not.

### Answer

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption has been applied:

## **Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means**

In response to these questions - the PSNI uses the College of Policing; ***Authorised professional Practice*** guidance on how to conduct investigations accessible via this link:

<https://www.app.college.police.uk/>

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 email.

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.