



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-00937

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Rewards

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

Please provide a copy of guidance held by your force on how your force deals with offering rewards for information. This might include guidance on how to offer rewards, and when it is appropriate to do so.

Request 2

In each of the last five financial years, please provide the number of occasions your force has offered a reward for information. For each reward offered, please provide the amount, the Home Office offence code of the offence the reward offer was made in response to, the age and ethnicity of the victim/s, and if possible within the cost limit, the free text description of the reason for the reward in your database. Can this information please be provided to me in a Excel spreadsheet/CSV format

Request 3

In each of the last five financial years, please provide the number of occasion's money was paid out for information provided in response to a reward offer, and the amount paid in each case.

Answers

The PSNI does not offer rewards for information nor does it routinely endorse them, with the exception of those offered by Crimestoppers, which is a separate organisation. Any rewards offered by them, or any other group or individual, would be paid by them directly and not from PSNI funds. The PSNI can confirm that the rewards detailed below were offered by groups or individuals.

Murder of Patrick Devine - Claudy - 13 September 2004 - £50,000 offered by family on 10th Anniversary in 2014 - £5,000 by Crimestoppers.

Murder of Ronan Kerr – 02 April 2011 - £50,000 reward offered by Crimestoppers on 05 April 2015.

Fitzwilliam Museum theft - issued on behalf of Cambridgeshire Police on 10th September 2013 - makes reference to the loss adjusters offering a reward.

Fire at puppy farm, Claby - an offer from Animal Rights Action Network (ARAN) of a £2,000.

Please note that the information requested does NOT cover monies paid to informants for intelligence submitted (CHIS), but where the force has made a public appeal for information to assist in a criminal investigation, the provision of which would attract reward monies. Rewards for information are well publicised, either by police forces themselves or via Crimestoppers.

Crimestoppers themselves are not subject to the Act, however you may find the following below link of assistance :

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/misc/media-centre/>

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.