



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-00750

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Police Officers Contacting Covid-19

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 has been aggregated with request F-2021-00751.

Request 1

The number of police officers who had covid and recovered and died of covid between April 2020 and February 2021?

Request 2

The number of police officers with long covid?

Clarification to requester

To enable the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to meet your request could you please provide further clarification on the following: Can clarification be provided around the word 'Recovery' in this request. Whilst the figures for police officers who have been recorded as COVID-19 Positive and returned to work can be provided, however these may not mean that they have 'recovered'.

Clarification from requester

Recovery means those who have contracted covid19 and are making progress in getting better but not yet fit to return to duty.

2nd clarification to Requester

To enable the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to meet your request could you please provide further clarification on the following: Please provide a timeline for when you seek this data? Please provide further clarity regarding the term 'Long Covid'?

Clarification from requester

I mean long covid described here <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.bbc.co.uk/news/amp/health-54296223>

The timeframe between March 2020 and February the 1st 2021. (11 month period).

Answer to Request 1 and 2.

Please note that the figures in the table under are subject to change. The table is broken down into the following categories as per medical opinion

- COVID19 Ongoing Symptomatic (absences between 4 -12 weeks)
- Post COVID-19 (absences more than 12 weeks)

Month	COVID-19 Confirmed still absent- this figure is included in the figures for COVID-19 Ongoing Symptomatic and Post COVID-19	COVID-19 Confirmed Returned to Work	COVID-19 Ongoing Symptomatic	Post COVID-19	Total
March 2020	0	0	0	0	0
April 2020	0	11	3	0	14
May 2020	0	2	0	0	2
June 2020	0	0	0	0	0
July 2020	0	0	0	0	0
August 2020	0	6	5	0	11
September 2020	0	14	2	1	17
October 2020	4	65	8	6	79
November 2020	0	56	8	3	67
December 2020	0	87	17	2	106
January 2021	2	104	26	4	134

The number of COVID-19 deaths during the requested timeframe is one.

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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.