

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-00388

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Legal Fees for Disciplinary Hearings

### 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 some information to which your request relates and this is being provided to you. We further consider that no information is held in relation to Request 2 and an explanation is provided.

### Request 1

In the calendar year 2018-2019 how much did the PSNI spend on legal representation at Disciplinary Hearings?

### Answer

Payments made in respect of work carried out on discipline matters is as follows:

2018 - £112,855.99

2019 - £78,132.00

### Request 2

Also can a breakdown of what amounts were paid to which firms be provided?

### Answer

Enquiries made in relation to your request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. The record owner has confirmed this work is undertaken by individual barristers from the Government Panel and not law firms. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

*For information, individual names of Barristers would be subject to exemption and not disclosed by PSNI.*

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](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.