

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-00910

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Police Officer Rest Days

### 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

How many Rest Days are owed to Constables, Sergeants, Inspectors and Chief Inspectors in your force?

#### Clarification sought

With regards to Request 1, can you please clarify what timescale you refer to, i.e. as of today's date?

#### Clarification received

I would like the information for from 1st January 2019 to 1st January 2020 please. However, I know some systems can only run a report on the day that request is put in at which point we would pro rata it from 1st January 2019 to current date.

#### Request 2

How many rest days were cancelled in total during 2019?

#### Request 3

Can you please supply this information as of 1 January 2020?

#### Answer

Please see the information requested in the separate tables below:-

#### Total Rest Days Owed as of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (date of the report)

Rank	Entitlement	Total
Chief Inspector	Police Modified Day (Days)	785
Inspector	Police Modified Day (Days)	1782
Sergeant	Police Modified Day (Days)	-9
Constable	Police Modified Day (Days)	-786

## Rest Days re-allocated from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to 31 December 2019 inclusive

Rank	Entitlement	Total
Chief Inspector	Police Modified Day (Days)	1457
Inspector	Police Modified Day (Days)	5587
Sergeant	Police Modified Day (Days)	9814
Constable	Police Modified Day (Days)	45984
<b>Total</b>		<b>62842</b>

### Notes

The movement of rest days is regulated for police officers within the Police Service of Northern Ireland Regulations 2005 and associated determinations by the Secretary of State. This is a statutory rule which came into effect on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2006.

Rostered rest days can be moved under two circumstances, firstly where a rest day falls on a public holiday. In this case, the rest day is re-allocated to a new date. This ensures the officer avails of both the public holiday and the rest day separately.

Secondly, rest days can be re-allocated to a new date dependant on the notice provided to the officer of a requirement to work that rest day. In this case, Regulation 25 applies and the determination Annex F part 1 manages the notice period.

Where the officer receives fifteen days or more notice the rest day will be re-allocated. Each officer will be notified within four days of the change of the new rest day. The original day is not cancelled but re-allocated as required by regulation.

Should an officer receive less than fifteen days' notice, overtime payment will be made at the appropriate rest day rate.

The data supplied contains both these scenarios and are recorded as one measurement.

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.