



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2022-02192

**Keyword:** Organisational Information HR Employment and Other

**Subject:** Job Applicants with Criminal Convictions

### Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we 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 do not however hold information in relation to request number 2 below. We have also provided you with links to guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office which we have followed in responding to your request.

### Request 1

How many job applications did you receive for each type of position (e.g. Police officer/Police staff) in (i) 2020/21?

### Answer

Within 2020/21, the Police Service of Northern Ireland received 6879 applications for our Police officer role and 6041 applications for Police Staff roles.

### Request 2

Of the applications received, how many were from applicants with at least one criminal conviction? Provide the figures separately for officers and staff.

### Answer

Enquires made in relation to your request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. Only applicants who are successful in the recruitment process are progressed through to the vetting stage where they are then asked to declare any previous criminal convictions. We do not therefore hold data regarding the criminal convictions of our total applicants.

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.police.uk](mailto:foi@psni.police.uk).

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at [www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/](http://www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/)

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 their 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.