



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2020-01832

Keyword: Human Resources

Subject: Recruitment Campaign 2020

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

In the 2020 recruitment campaign, how many candidates have currently been invited to progress onto the PSNI managed stages ie. 'fast tracked'?

Answer

As of 7th October 2020, the Police Service of Northern Ireland has received one interim merit list comprising 142 candidates who performed to an exceptionally high standard at assessment centre.

These candidates have been invited to progress through to the remaining pre-employment stages in the recruitment process.

Request 2

Out of these candidates that have been 'fast tracked' onto PSNI managed stages, how many have a live application in the 2017 or 2018 campaign?

Answer

Two of the 142 candidates who have so far been invited to progress through to the pre-employment stages have a live application in a previous campaign.

Request 3

Will there be another stage of 'fast tracking' before the results on 4th December- and when this may be expected?

Answer

It is intended that the Police Service of Northern Ireland will receive one additional interim merit list of candidates who have performed to an exceptionally high standard at assessment centre. We anticipate receiving this list in early November.

Request 4

How many candidates will be anticipated to be 'fast tracked' in total before the results of the

assessment centre on 4th December?

Answer

The Freedom of Information Act requires PSNI to provide a response to a request for 'recorded' information which is held (s.1 FOIA). A question will not necessarily constitute a 'valid request'. Further information on what constitutes a valid request can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office website:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1164/recognising-a-request-made-under-the-foia.pdf>

The FOI Act therefore does not require PSNI to speculate or provide a response to questions which are not seeking recorded information.

The total number of high performing candidates progressed for this campaign will be determined by the level of performance at assessment centre and operational demand.

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.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.