

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-02219

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Regional Asset Confiscation Enforcement (ACE) Team

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.

Please provide me with information on the force's Regional Asset Confiscation Enforcement (ACE) Team.

Regarding the last 4 financial years, I would appreciate the figures for the team's:

Request 1

Total budget.

Answer

There is no bespoke or separate budget for the Team; it is encompassed in the Departments budget.

Request 2

Total headcount.

Answer

The team currently consists of the following: 1 Detective Sergeant, 1 Detective Constable and 4 Police Staff 'Financial Investigators'.

Request 3

Number of confiscation orders enforced.

Answer

Of the orders obtained, PSNI determined that a total of four to be in default with enforcement action being taken or considered.

Request 4

Value of funds recovered through confiscation orders.

Answer

Please see below information regarding value of funds recovered from confiscation orders for time period requested:

- 2017/2018 20 orders obtained total value £462,594.09
- 2018/2019 15 orders obtained total value £602,664.71
- 2019/2020 12 orders obtained total value £1,343,642.17
- 2020/2021 14 orders obtained total value £499,795.97

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 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/

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

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