



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2022-02769

**Keyword:** Organisational Information Police/Staff Training

**Subject:** Trauma Training

### 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 information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

#### Request 1

What, if any, training on trauma and its impacts is provided to newly recruited police officers and police staff?

#### Answer

Newly recruited police student officers currently receive a number of lessons on trauma and its impact, namely: Trauma informed practice/Adverse childhood experiences, suicide awareness, ASSIST and resilience and wellbeing.

#### Request 2

At which stage during training is training on trauma and its impacts provided to newly recruited police officers and staff?

#### Answer

Lessons on these subjects are taught at the beginning and end of the student officer programme but the themes are embedded throughout all learning in the programme.

#### Request 3

What, if any, training, guidance or counselling is offered to newly recruited police officers on a) understanding, and b) mitigating the impacts of any trauma that they may have received before joining the police?

#### Answer

This is also embedded in the training listed above, they are also provided on initial entry details of all relevant support streams available to them as a member of the organisation through Occupational Health and Wellbeing services.

**Please note:** The above training is currently being redeveloped and will be replaced in the coming months with:

- Psychological Wellbeing in The Workforce – Lesson to be delivered at the beginning of student officer training.
- Trauma Informed Practice – Lesson to be delivered at the end of student officer training
- Psychological Resilience Skills – Lesson to be delivered during Probationer Training

**Please note:** PSNI do not offer any bespoke trauma training for police staff, instead we signpost staff to the facilities offered by our Occupational Health and Wellbeing team and to the advice and guidance available on our intranet.

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 Corporate Information Manager, 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 unhappy about how your request has been handled you have the right to apply in writing to the Information Commissioner, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, at 'Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. There are a number of other platforms you can use to contact the ICO and these can be found on the ICO's website at the following link: [Make a complaint | ICO \(https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/\)](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/).

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.