



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-02865

Keyword: Organisational Information Police/Staff Misconduct and Complaints

Subject: Discipline Hearings and Costs

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

Thank you for your response to my FOI request on discipline costs. Would it be possible for me to refine my initial request, as follows:

With respect of police officers only, the total legal costs associated with discipline, specifically the hiring of both senior and junior barristers in respects of both panel and PSD for the purpose of disciplinary hearings within the PSNI in each of the following calendar years – 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 (YTD).

Answer

Please see the table below outlining the total legal cost associated with discipline, specifically the hiring of both senior and junior barristers in respect to both panel and PSD for the purpose of disciplinary hearings within the PSNI in each of the following calendar years 2018,2019,2020,2021 and 2022 in respect of police officers only.

Year	Cost
2018	£33,800.00
2019	£117,243.00
2020	£47,415.00
2021	£91,502.49
2022 (YTD)	£386,250.40

The number of misconduct hearings held per year is relevant to the costs incurred by the PSNI, and is detailed below.

2018	16
2019	14
2020	9
2021	8
2022	28

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.

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

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