



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-00430

Keyword: Organisational Information HR Employment and Other

Subject: Recruitment of Retired PSNI Officers /Staff

Request and Answer:

Request 1

Can you please provide me with the number of retired or former PSNI staff/officers (at every level) who have been recruited in a consultancy capacity by the PSNI in the past 4 years specifically; 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22 to date.

Request 2

Please include stats for paid and unpaid positions with a breakdown to distinguish between the two.

Request 3

Can you please provide the overall expenditure for each of these years in regards to paid consultancy jobs for retired or former officers/staff.

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 (PSNI) does not hold information in relation to your requests. Enquiries made in relation to your request for the number of ex members of PSNI who have been recruited in a consultancy capacity by PSNI failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided.

PSNI's Human Resource Department have advised that PSNI do not employ anyone in a consultancy basis, but consultants may be paid for their services, but this would not be as an employee and would be recorded through finance invoices. Additionally, all employees are paid we do not have any employees who are unpaid.

Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

Advice and Assistance

Under Section 16 of the FOIA, PSNI will always try to assist you to refine your request and provide advice where we can. PSNI can assist with the following:

- **Request 1** - PSNI can provide the number of leavers in the years requested as well as how many of those leavers returned to employment but it would be for all roles as we do not have a “consultancy” duty type.
- **Request 3** – PSNI can provide how much has been paid to the companies / businesses used for consultancy.

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

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.psnipolice.uk

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