



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2023-00449

Keyword: Organisational Information Police/Staff Recruitment and Promotion

Subject: Vetting Clearance Decisions

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

Copies of all vetting clearance decisions (including rationale) issued between 5-9 September 2022, in cases where a Disclosure and Barring Service check revealed previous spent or unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands, warnings, or inclusion on any barred lists.

Clarification from Requester

I would be grateful if you could please consider the following revised request:

Copies of all vetting clearance decisions (including rationale) issued between 5-9 September 2022 in relation to applications for police officer roles, in cases where the vetting process revealed previous spent or unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands, warnings, or inclusion on any barred lists.

Clarification to Requester

To enable the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to meet your request could you please provide further clarification on the following:

When you refer to 'applications for police officer roles' – is this student officer recruitment or internal applications for police officer vacancies?

Clarification from Requester

Please include both student officer applications and internal applications.

Answer

During the listed timeframe:

- No student officer clearances were processed.
- No internal applications were cleared where checks revealed previous spent or unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands, warnings, or inclusion on any barred lists.

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.