



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-00654

Keyword: Organisational Information Health of Officers and Staff

Subject: Police Officer Sickness

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. We further consider the information you seek in request number 3 is exempt by virtue of section 47 of FOIA and have detailed our rationale as to why this exemption applies. We have also provided you with links to guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office which we have followed in responding to your request.

Clarification Sought

In regards to question 4 can you please provide a more specific definition of what you mean by long term sickness?

In regards to questions 1, 2 and 3 this information can only be provided by the recorded owner as of 31/01/23 as this was our last monthly sickness report. In regards to questions 5, 6, 7 and 8 this information can only be provided in financial years by the record owner if that is ok?

Clarification Received

Yes financial year is ok.

In relation to question 1 it would be how many are currently off on sick leave as of the date Long-term sick anything more than 6 months

Request 1

As of 22/2/2023 how many police officers are currently on sick leave?

Answer

There are currently 517 police officers on sick leave.

Request 2

Please give rough outline for leave mental health, morale, injury...

Answer

Please see the list below which indicates what is categorised for leave mental health, morale and injury.

- Cancer – 8
- Cardiac/Circulatory or Metabolism – 22
- Covid-19 – 21
- Digestive Disorder – 23

- EENT – Eye/Ear/Nose/Throat – 9
- Genito-Urinary/Gynaecological – 9
- Headache/Migraine – 9
- Infectious Diseases – 3
- Initial Consultation – 7
- Miscellaneous – 10
- Musculoskeletal – 118
- Nervous System – 7
- Post Pregnancy – 11
- Pregnancy – 8
- Psychological – 215
- Respiratory – 24
- Skin – 3
- Unaccounted Surgery – 10

Total – 517

Request 3

How many of these officers have been off on long-term sick, and please state the longest period of sickness, i.e. 1 year, 2 years.

Answer

314 police officers have been off on long-term sick. In relation to the second part of your request 'please state the longest period of sickness', we consider the information you seek in request number 3 is exempt by virtue of section 47 of FOIA as this may involve the unreasonable disclosure of personal information about any person and may make the officer(s) more identifiable.

Request 4

Please give rough outline for long-terms sickness

Answer

We define long term absence as officers who have been absent from work for 29 days or more in one period.

Request 5

How many police officers were off on sick leave calendar year last year January 1, 2022, December 31, 2022.

Answer

4163 police officers were off on periods of sick leave for the calendar year last year January 1, 2022, December 31, 2022.

Request 6

Please give rough outline for leave mental health, moral, injury...

Answer

Please see the list below which indicates what is categorised for leave mental health, moral and injury.

- Cancer – 19
- Cardiac/Circulatory or Metabolism – 77
- Covid-19 – 1308
- Digestive Disorder – 363
- EENT – Ear/Eye/Nose/Throat – 126
- Genito-Urinary/Gynaecological – 62
- Headache/Migraine – 97
- Infectious Disease – 16

- Initial Consultation – 14
- Loss of Hearing – 1
- Miscellaneous – 39
- Musculoskeletal – 586
- Nervous System – 15
- Post Pregnancy – 37
- Pregnancy – 57
- Psychological – 588
- Respiratory – 672
- Skin – 31
- Unaccounted Surgery – 55

Total – 4163

Request 7

How many police officers were off on sick leave calendar year last year January 1, 2021, December 31, 2021.

Answer

4762 police officers were off on periods of sick leave for the calendar year last year January 1, 2021, December 31, 2021.

Request 8

Please give rough outline for leave mental health, moral, injury...

Answer

Please see the list below which indicates what is categorised for leave mental health, moral and injury.

- Cancer – 18
- Cardiac/Circulatory or Metabolism – 72
- Covid-19 – 2653
- Digestive Disorder – 272
- EENT – Ear/Eye/Nose/Throat – 84
- Genito-Urinary/Gynaecological – 41
- Headache/Migraine – 63
- Infectious Disease – 4
- Initial Consultation – 2
- Miscellaneous – 196
- Musculoskeletal – 482
- Nervous System – 8
- Post Pregnancy – 33
- Pregnancy – 46
- Psychological – 459
- Respiratory – 262
- Skin – 38
- Unaccounted Surgery – 29

Total – 4762

The full text of exemptions can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk and further guidance on how they operate can be located on the Information Commissioners Office website www.ico.org.uk.

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.