

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-01141

Keyword: Organisational Information Police/Staff Misconduct and Complaints

Subject: Officers Investigated for Sexual Misconduct & Domestic Abuse

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

To date, how many officers are currently being investigated for sexual misconduct and domestic abuse claims?

Clarification to Requester:

Does your request include both internal matters being investigated by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department, and external matters being investigated by Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland?

Clarification from Requester:

I'm looking for internal cases, please.

Answer

There are currently 88 officers under investigation for alleged sexual misconduct or domestic abuse.

Request 2

Of those, how many are continuing in employment as normal?

Answer

39 officers continue to undertake their regular duties.

Request 3

Of those, how many are on restricted duties?

Answer

11 officers are repositioned to alternate duties.

Request 4

Of those, how many are suspended?

Answer

38 officers are suspended from duty.

Request 5

Of those, how many have now left the force?

Answer

As investigations are still ongoing, no officers have left the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

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/).

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.