



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** FOI-2023-01277

**Keyword:** Organisational Information Police/Staff Misconduct and Complaints

**Subject:** Misconduct - Posting Sexual Content Online

### 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 (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

#### Request 1

How many officers/staff in your police force have been investigated for “posting sexually explicit / pornographic images” of themselves online from January 2019 to 16 April 2023?

#### Request 2

How many of these officers/staff were male and how many were female?

#### Request 3

What were the outcomes of these cases?

#### Answers 1 – 3

PSNI can advise no officers / staff have been investigated for posting sexually explicit / pornographic images of themselves online from January 2019 to 16 April 2023.

*Please note; Answer provided is based on images that were posted to a webpage. For example 'Facebook' for others to view, and does not include online communications such as 'WhatsApp'.*

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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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