Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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Request Number: F-2023-01696

Keyword: Organisational Information HR Employment and Other

Subject: Health Of Officers In Specific Roles

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

Can you provide me a copy of any policy or guidance documents relating the the psychological screening of officers within Armed Response Unit, Public Protection Unit and Family Liaison Officers?

Answer

There is no policy or guidance documents relating the psychological screening of officers within Armed Response Unit, Public Protection Unit and Family Liaison Officers.

Request 2

Do you routinely screen officers within these roles monitoring their mental health?

Answer

No, however, a pilot psychological screening and surveillance assessment is to be organised with 10 - 15 officers and/or staff starting a new post in a high-risk unit/s (i.e. Public Protection Unit, Cyber Crime, Family Liaison Officers, Crime Scene Investigators, etc.) is due to commence in the Autumn for 24 months.

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: <u>Make a complaint | ICO</u> (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 @ <u>www.psni.police.uk</u>

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