



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Please note the text of this request has been reproduced exactly as received.

FOI Reference number: FOI 78/2024

Date: 22 January 2025

Request:

1. The full unredacted copy of the Schofield Review completed in November 2014. The version published 10 years ago still contains redactions

Answer:

We can confirm that the NI Policing Board does hold information falling within the terms of your request.

We have considered your request and consider that a number of exemptions apply to sections of information contained within the Scofield Review.

The specific exemption(s) which apply in relation to your request are:

- Section 40 (2) Third Party Personal data.

References are made throughout the Review to third party personal data. This personal information is exempt from disclosure to you under section 40(2) by virtue of section 40(3)(a)(i) of the FOIA.

Section 40(2) allows a public authority to withhold information from a response to a request for information under the FOIA when the information requested is personal information relating to someone other than the requester and its disclosure would contravene one of the data protection principles.

The first data protection principle requires personal data to be processed fairly and lawfully. This personal data is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOIA as, in our view, it would be unfair to provide it to you, and therefore disclosure would be in contravention of the first principle of the UK General Data Protection Regulation. This is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

- Section 42 Legal Professional Privilege –

The redacted portions of Chapter 13 are considered to be exempt from release as the exemption at Section 42 (1) Legal Professional Privilege of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is engaged. Specifically, the redacted information is considered to attract 'Advice Privilege'

Section 42 of the Act is a qualified exemption and as such has been subject to a 'Public Interest Test' a copy of which is attached at **Appendix A**.

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

A redacted version of the Scofield Review can be found on our website at the following link –

<https://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/scofield-review-injury-duty-award-scheme>.

Request:

2. The amount of public money spent by the Northern Ireland Policing board relating to the Schofield review.

Answer:

According to the Board's financial records the value spent in relation to the Scofield review is £43,410.00

Request:

3. The amount of public money spent by the Director of Police pensions and injury benefits acting on behalf of the board spent during the "paper-based review of each of the cases" by the "two doctors who had no previous involvement in any of the eight cases" in relation to the Harveson and Chadwick Judicial review. (ICOS No: 22/022820/01)

Answer:

Correction made 13 February 2025 - Due to an administrative error the Northern Ireland Policing Board wishes to correct its answer to this question

Our original answer stated that the cost of paper-based reviews of eight cases completed by two Selected Medical Practitioner's (**SMPs**) amounted to £11,200. This should in fact be £5,940 for the completion of a total of nine reviews completed by two SMPs.

Request:

4. The full statistics used by the Director of Police pensions and injury benefits acting on behalf of the board used to produce the answer to FOI 09/2019

Answer:

The 'Police Administration Branch Delegated Authority Statistics October 2016 – March 2019' paper was presented to Resources Committee on 18 April 2019. There are no other statistical documents retained in relation to this. The statistics are presented to Resources Committee on 18 April 2019 are replicated below.

DECISIONS TAKEN BY SMPs AND PROCESSED BY OFFICIALS UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

FOR THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER 2016 – 31 MARCH 2017

SERVING OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Ill Health Pension	30	3
Injury on Duty Award	18	12
Total Serving Officers	48	15
FORMER OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Retrospective Ill Health Pension	2	0
Retrospective Injury on Duty Award	14	15
Deferred Pension due to ill health	1	0
Total Former Officers	17	15

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 APRIL 2017 – 31 MARCH 2018

SERVING OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Ill Health Pension	71	1
Injury on Duty Award	44	26
Total Serving Officers	115	27
FORMER OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Retrospective Ill Health Pension	0	1
Retrospective Injury on Duty Award	55	29
Deferred Pension due to ill health	5	1
Total Former Officers	60	31

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 APRIL 2018 – 31 MARCH 2019

SERVING OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Ill Health Pension	55	4
Injury on Duty Award	37	25
Total Serving Officers	92	29
FORMER OFFICERS		
Type of application	Approved	Refused
Retrospective Ill Health Pension	3	1
Retrospective Injury on Duty Award	18	25
Deferred Pension due to ill health	2	2
Total Former Officers	23	28

ANNEX B

OUTCOME OF APPEALS TO THE INDEPENDENT MEDICAL REFEREE

FOR THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER 2016 – 31 MARCH 2017

SERVING OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	1
Overtaken	5
Upheld	1
Total Serving Officers	7
FORMER OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	5
Overtaken	18
Upheld	10
Total Former Officers	33

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 APRIL 2017 – 31 MARCH 2018

SERVING OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	1
Overtured	1
Upheld	4
Total Serving Officers	6
FORMER OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	1
Overtured	53
Upheld	42
Total Former Officers	96

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 APRIL 2018 – 31 MARCH 2019

SERVING OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	0
Overtured	1
Upheld	0
Total Serving Officer	1
FORMER OFFICERS	
Type of application	Appeals
Withdrawn	1
Overtured	72
Upheld	60
Total Former Officer	133

If you have queries about this request or the decision please contact the Board quoting the reference number above. If you are unhappy with the service you have received and wish to make a complaint or request a review you should contact the Board's Chief Executive -

Via Email: foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk

Or in writing at the following address:

Northern Ireland Policing Board
James House
Block D
2 – 4 Cromac Avenue
The Gasworks
Belfast
BT7 2JA

You should contact the Board within 40 working days of this response.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot investigate or make a decision on a case unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Board. You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at the following web link –

www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

or in writing at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Telephone: - 0303 1231114

Email: - ni@ico.org.uk

Please be advised that Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.nipolicingboard.org.uk.

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