



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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

FOI Reference number: FOI 09/2025

Date: 7 March 2025

Request:

Please supply the following information under Fol.

- 1) In the past 10 years how many senior officers in PSNI have been subject to an investigation by NIPB?
- 2) What was the ranks of these officers?
- 3) What were the outcome of these investigations?
- 4) In the past 10 years how many senior officers have even requested to resign?
- 5) In the past 10 years has NIPB authorise the use of any injunctions in respect of any senior officer of PSNI?
- 6) If so, how many injunctions have been authorised, and what is the cost to the public purse?
- 7) In the last 10 years how many senior officers have retired through the Ill Health Process?
- 8) How long did this process take on average?
- 9) What bandings were given for these IHR processes?

Answer:

- 1) The Police (Conduct) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016 require the NIPB, as the Appropriate Authority, to make an assessment, finding or decision in connection with the conduct of a senior officer. In the past 10 years the Board has exercised its role as Appropriate Authority on five occasions, involving three officers.
- 2) In line with legislation NIPB identifies the ranks of Assistant Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable and Chief Constable as senior police officers for the purposes of the Police (Conduct) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016. The Board holds information on the ranks of the officers whose conduct was assessed but in the circumstances it is deemed that release of the information requested should be withheld as the exemption at Section 40(2) (Third Party Data) as the condition at Section 40(3) (a) (i) is met. 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 (UKGDPR). This is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

- 3) In one instance the officer resigned before the conclusion of the Board considerations. On the other occasions the Board found no evidence of misconduct.
- 4) In the last 10 years no senior PSNI officer has been required to resign.
- 5) The NIPB is not aware of any injunction on a senior PSNI officer.
- 6) See response to Question 5.
- 7) In the last 10 years no senior officer (Assistant Chief Constable or above) has retired through Ill Health Retirement.
- 8) N/A
- 9) N/A

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.