



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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FOI Reference number: FOI 22/2025

Date: 28 April 2025

Question 1.

Detail the process used by the Policing Board to dispose of surplus PSNI estate, including time frames for the different stages of the D1 process and public sale process and the role played by LPS in disposal of PSNI estate.

Answer:

The Policing Board does not hold the information requested. Whilst the Board is the owner of the police estate, it has delegated responsibility for day-to-day estate management, which includes the disposal of surplus PSNI estate, to the Chief Constable. PSNI takes forward the process for surplus estate disposals through the D1 process and in line with published Government Guidance:

[Disposal of surplus public sector property in Northern Ireland - guidance](#)

Question 2.

What criteria is required by the Policing Board to be fulfilled before an individual or group can be considered for the opportunity to purchase former lands of the PSNI Estate via the D1 process and public sale process?

Answer:

See response to Question 1.

Question 3.

What safeguards are utilised by the PB to ensure applying groups are fully constituted and registered with Charities NI and that criteria claimed by the applicant(s) are as stated?

Answer:

See response to Question 1.

Question 4.

Detail the process employed by which the Policing Board came to the decision to award the former PSNI station at Castlederg to Derg and District Cultural Association (DDCA) and what criteria was the criteria met by DDCA to meet the requirements.

Answer:

Whilst day to day management of the police estate is delegated to the Chief Constable, as the legal owner of the police estate, the Board is required to formally approve purchases or disposals.

The Board was advised by PSNI that the Castlederg site was identified as a surplus asset by PSNI, and it was approved for disposal in 2016 by the Policing Board.

The Board was advised by PSNI that the D1 Public Sector Disposal commenced on the 23th March 2022.

The PSNI advised the Board of the outcome of the D1 Public Sector Disposal process which was then considered by the Board and its Resources Committee. A decision to dispose to Derg & District Cultural Association was agreed by NIPB on 8th December 2022 and recorded in the Board minutes:

[policing-board-minutes-8-december-2022.pdf](#)

Question 5.

When was the decision made not to proceed with the sale of former Castlederg PSNI station to DDCA and what were the reasons for that decision?

Answer:

The Board was advised by PSNI on 12 February 2025 that the requisite milestones included in the D1 process could not be met in respect of Government Guidelines established for Community Asset Transfer (CAT).

Question 6.

Depending on the reasons for terminating the sale to DDCA and given the previous interest in obtaining the former Castlederg PSNI station via the D1 process by Apex Housing in collaboration with Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Derry/Strabane District Council; Why have the PB decided to put the site on the open market rather than restart the D1 process?

Answer:

The Board was advised by the PSNI on 12 February 2025 that the requisite milestones included in the D1 process could not be met in respect of Government Guidelines established for Community Asset Transfer (CAT) and that disposal could now proceed to external market.

The Board Resources Committee made a recommendation to the Board to proceed to open market and decisions are recorded in the meeting minutes:

[resources-committee-minutes-27-february-2025.pdf](#) and [policing-board-minutes-6-march-2025.pdf](#)

Question 7.

Provide all minutes of both the Resources Committee and Policing Board where the sale of former Castlederg PSNI station was discussed excluding any Reference to valuations.

Answer:

Links to the relevant minutes on the Board's website are included below:

[resources-committee-minutes-30-june-2022.pdf](#)

[resources-committee-minutes-22-september-2022.pdf](#)

[policing-board-minutes-6-october-2022.pdf](#)

[resources-committee-minutes-24-november-2022.pdf](#)

[policing-board-minutes-8-december-2022.pdf](#)

[policing-board-minutes-2-february-2023.pdf](#)

[policing-board-minutes-6-april-2023.pdf](#)

[resources-committee-minutes-26-september-2024.pdf](#)

[resources-committee-minutes-27-february-2025.pdf](#)

[policing-board-minutes-6-march-2025.pdf](#)

Question 8

When surplus PSNI estate is put out to the open market, who is responsible for the sale of said estate and how and where is this sale advertised.

Answer:

See response to Question 1.

Question 9.

Provide any correspondence between Policing Board and DDCA, DCSDC, Apex and NIHE throughout the D1 process and the decision to terminate this process.

Answer:

The NI Policing Board has delegated the responsibility for the disposal of surplus PSNI estate to the Chief Constable. This includes all communications in connection with progression of the disposal through the D1 process.

Question 10.

Following the disposal of surplus PSNI estate via the D1 process, is there any safeguards employed or obligations on the PB to ensure the land is used for the purpose stated by the obtaining group when applying via the D1 process.

Answer:

See response to Question 1.

Question 11.

Is there anything preventing a group or individual from selling on former PSNI estate land obtained via the D1 process at any time in the future at open market value?

Answer:

See response to Question 1.

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

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