



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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

FOI Reference number: FOI 66/2025

Date: 26 November 2025

Request:

As a follow up to FOI 60 2025, if this is the case could I please have the information requested from November 2022.

1. The number of officers / retired officers who have applied for a reconsideration in relation to their banding only, IOD/RIOD?
2. How many applicants have been granted a reconsideration?
3. How many applicants received a change to their banding after a reconsideration?
4. How many applicants received a change to their reassessment date after a reconsideration?
5. The number of officers / retired officers who have applied for a reconsideration in relation to their implementation date only, IOD/RIOD? How many applicants have been granted a reconsideration?
6. How many applicants received a change to their implementation date after a reconsideration?
7. The number of officers / retired officers who have applied for a reconsideration in relation to their banding and implementation date only, IOD/RIOD? How many applicants have been granted a reconsideration?
8. How many applicants received a change to their implementation date after a reconsideration?

Answer:

1. A reconsideration of an Injury on Duty (**IOD**) Award made under the *PSNI and PSNI Reserve (Injury Benefit) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Regulations)* will involve the medical practitioner addressing all the statutory questions which includes the banding of any IOD Award.

Since November 2022, there has been 29 reconsiderations conducted by the Selected Medical Practitioner (**SMP**), under the 2006 Regulations only, which have reached completion. By way of outcomes, the SMP has overturned the previous decision in three cases.

Since November 2022, there has been one IMR reconsideration request made under the 2006 Regulations only, which have reached completion. In this case the IMR overturned the previous decision.

2. *Regulation 31(2) of the 2006 Regulations* states that:

‘The Board and the claimant may, by agreement, refer any final decision of a medical authority who has given such a decision to him for reconsideration, and he shall accordingly reconsider his decision and, if necessary, issue a fresh report and certificate....’

However, Northern Ireland Policing Board Officials has taken your question to mean, how many applicants have had the decision of the SMP or IMR overtured on reconsideration. With that in mind please see response to question 1.

3. See response to Question 1

4. One.

5. The implementation date is not a statutory question set out under the *2006 Regulations* therefore this cannot be the sole basis for a reconsideration case being referred back to the SMP/ IMR. For a case to be referred back for reconsideration, all questions previously considered by the previous medical authority would be referred again. In practice this means that an applicant’s banding may increase, decrease, remain the same, or be removed in its entirety, dependent on the expert medical opinion.

6. Regarding three SMP reconsiderations which overturned the previous decision, each case was overturned from a refusal of an IOD to a banding awarded. With that in mind, in each case an implementation date was given. Regarding the reconsideration by the IMR whereby the previous decision was overturned, there was no change to the implementation date.

7. See response to Questions 1 & 5

8. See answer to Question 6.

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.



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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FOI Reference number: FOI 66/2025

Date: 6 February 2026

Request: Clarification on Responses to FOI 66/2025

The information provided does not fully address the questions as originally submitted. Several of my questions were re-interpreted rather than answered directly, and multiple data points requested remain outstanding.

Accordingly, and for the avoidance of doubt, I now request the specific information originally sought, covering the period from November 2022 to the present, as follows:

1. Reconsideration requests relating to banding only (IOD/RIOD)

Please provide:

- a) The number of officers/retired officers who applied for a reconsideration relating to banding only;
- b) How many were granted reconsideration;
- c) How many resulted in a change to banding;
- d) How many resulted in a change to reassessment date.

This was answered under Q1, Q2, Q3 & Q4 of FOI 66 2025

2. Reconsideration requests relating to implementation date only (IOD/RIOD)

Please provide:

- a) The number of officers/retired officers who applied for reconsideration relating to implementation date only;
- b) How many were granted reconsideration;
- c) How many resulted in a change to implementation date.

If, as stated, the Board asserts that an implementation-date-only reconsideration is not possible under the Regulations, then please confirm whether any requests were nevertheless received under that heading, and how they were categorised, recorded, or dealt with administratively.

This was answered under Q5 of FOI 66 2025

3. Reconsideration requests relating to both banding and implementation date (IOD/RIOD)

Please provide:

- a) The number of applicants seeking reconsideration on both issues;
- b) How many were granted reconsideration;
- c) How many resulted in a change to implementation date;

d) How many resulted in a change to banding.

Please see response to Q2 above.

4. Clarification on previous response

Your answer grouped all reconsiderations together and did not disaggregate the figures by basis of the request, as the FOI explicitly required. In order to understand the data properly, please:

provide the requested breakdowns;

confirm whether such categorisation is held in your systems;

if not held, please confirm this explicitly under Section 1(1) FOIA and advise how reconsideration requests are categorised internally.

Please see response to Q2 above. Upon receipt of a reconsideration request, i.e. a request whereby an applicant requests for the entirety of the previous medical authority's (i.e. Selected Medical Practitioner (SMP)/ Independent Medical Referee (IMR) decision to be reconsidered, Board Officials request the provision of further medical evidence, not considered by the SMP/ IMR. Upon receipt of same, the anonymised request is taken to Resources Committee for agreement, as per *Regulation 31(2) of the PSNI and PSNI Reserve (Injury Benefit) Regulations 2006*. Following agreement by Members, the case referral is drafted, and a paper-based assessment is scheduled with the SMP, if they were the last medical authority to assess the case. Where the IMR was the last medical authority to assess the case, the submission bundle is prepared and forwarded to the Department of Justice to arrange a paper-based assessment with the IMR.

Where an applicant requests for the implementation date only to be reconsidered, Board Officials subsequently advise that any reconsideration encompasses all of the statutory questions set out in the 2006 Regulations and in practice this means that the banding of the Injury on Duty Award may increase, decrease, remain the same or be removed in its entirety. Board Officials request confirmation that the applicant wishes to proceed on this basis. If not, the reconsideration request is deemed closed and the request is not retained on the reconsideration spreadsheet, as it did not get to the stage of being considered by Resources Committee. If confirmation to proceed is received, the reconsideration request proceeds as per the process set out above and the request is added to the reconsideration spreadsheet.

5. Time period

Please confirm that all figures relate to November 2022 – present, as originally requested.

All figures under FOI 66 2025 are from November 2022 – to the date of FOI 66 2025.

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