



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 07/2019

Date: 9 May 2019

Request:

I seek the following information from NIPB in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act relating to Appeals received / sent to DOJNI under the Police Injury Benefit Regulations (NI) 2006.

1. Total number of appeals in relation to Injury Benefit awards received on an annual basis by NIPB since 1 Jan 2017
2. Total number of appeals in relation to Injury Benefit awards sent to DOJNI on an annual basis since 1 Jan 2017.
3. Total number of appeals presently held by NIPB in excess of 2.3 years and not yet sent to DOJNI.

Answer:

1. The total number of appeals in relation to *Injury Benefit awards** received by the Northern Ireland Policing Board (the **Board**) since 1 January 2017 is as follows:

TIME PERIOD	NUMBER OF APPEALS
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017	59
1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018	26
1 January 2019 – 8 May 2019 (Present)	26

2. The total number of appeals in relation to *Injury Benefit awards** sent to the Department of Justice (the **DOJ**) from the Board since 1 January 2017 is as follows:

TIME PERIOD	NUMBER OF APPEALS
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017	152
1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018	46
1 January 2019 – 8 May 2019 (Present)	14

*Please note that for the purpose of Questions 1 & 2, the Board understands *Injury Benefit awards* to mean Injury on Duty awards.

- 3 Total number of appeals presently held by NIPB in excess of 2.3 years and not yet sent to DOJNI.

As of 8 May 2019 NIPB officials currently hold and are processing 23 appeals. This number does not include appeals currently being processed by the DOJ.

None of the appeals currently being processed by NIPB officials have been 'held' in excess of 2.3 years.

For clarification purposes, NIPB forward appeals to the DOJ only when the Selected Medical Practitioner (SMP) process in any given case has been completed. That is to say, an appeal cannot be forwarded to the DOJ if there is any ongoing reassessment and/or reconsideration application pertaining to the SMP's decision.

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 write to the Board's Chief Executive at the following address:

Northern Ireland Policing Board
Waterside Tower
31 Clarendon Road
Clarendon Dock
Belfast BT1 3BG

Email: foi@nipolicingboard.org.uk

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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted 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.