



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 22/2017

Date: 21 June 2017

Request:

As you are aware the new system for Selected Medical Practitioners (SMP's) came into existence in October 2016. At that time there were nine SMP's appointed.

- 1) How many are there now, as at this date?
- 2) Reasons for leaving.
- 3) What steps are being taken to ensure an adequate pool of SMPs?
- 4) What on-going training is given?

Answer:

- 1) **How many are there now, as at this date?**

For clarity there were 7 SMPs appointed in October 2016 and there are currently 6 SMPs.

- 2) **Reasons for leaving.**

This information is deemed to be the personal data of a third party and is exempt from disclosure under Section 40 (2) (Third Party Data) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. To release the information you request under the Freedom of Information Act would contravene the first Principle of the Data Protection Act 1998.

- 3) **What steps are being taken to ensure an adequate pool of SMPs?**

The Northern Ireland Policing Board continues to monitor the availability and selection of SMP's to ensure that officers have an adequate choice of experienced SMPs. SMP recruitment remains open to applications at all times and any applications received will be considered for addition to the SMP list. Appointments are arranged for cases as soon as they are ready for referral to the SMP i.e. the SMP selection list has been received and all relevant information has been obtained.

4) **What on-going training is given?**

SMP training needs are being reviewed on a six month basis, with training arranged as required.

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.