



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 30/2017

Date: 4 August 2017

Request:

The request concerns the proposed joint training college for the Northern Ireland police, fire and prison services at Desertcreat, Co. Tyrone / the Northern Ireland community safety college (the Desertcreat College)

1. Was it understood to be a recommendation of the 1999 Patten Report (*'Policing in Northern Ireland: A New Beginning'*) ("The Patten Report") that the site of the Desertcreat College be within a 30-mile radius of Belfast?
2. If so, please provide copies of all documents (including correspondence/ meeting notes/emails/briefings etc) ("Documents") concerning:
 - (A) any understanding/recommendation/directive that the Desertcreat College be within a 30 mile radius of Belfast; and/or
 - (B) the dis-application/amendment extension of the 30-mile radius requirement recommendation in the case of the Desertcreat College.
3. Given that the Desertcreat College is not close to any university, please provide copies of all Documents relating to the dis-application/ amendment of the recommendation in the Patten Report (paragraph 16.6) that the Desertcreat College should ideally be "an area convenient for links to be established with a university".

Answer:

1. Recommendation 131 of the 1999 Patten Report (*'Policing in Northern Ireland: A New Beginning'*) states:

"We recommend that the Northern Ireland police should have a new purpose-built police college and that the funding for it should be found in the next public spending round".

There is no reference or wording in any of the 175 recommendations contained in the Report in relation to the siting of a new Police Training College.

2. Not applicable. Please see response above at Answer 1.
3. Not applicable. Please see response above at Answer 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 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.