



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

FOI Reference number: 69/2015

Date: 4 January 2016

Request:

1. I would also request information on how many officers have applied for retrospective injury awards for hearing loss and the number of successful awards if any, please consider this request under the freedom of information act.
2. Doctor [REDACTED] states that my hearing is normal when measured against the WHO classification scheme, may I have detailed written information about the scheme and who has classified my hearing as normal. Could you also confirm if this test is recognized by the northern Courts.
3. Would it be possible to supply me with the written criteria on which an injury on duty pension can be awarded i.e. what level of deafness or tinnitus is needed for an IOD.

Answer:

1. Since 2007 a total of 1766 retrospective injury award applications for hearing loss have been received by the Board. 617 have been successful.
2. The Board does not hold this information however full details of the WHO Classification Scheme can be found on the World Health Organisation website using the following link: www.who.int/pbd/deafness/hearing_impairment
3. A determination is made in line with the Board's Guidance Booklet on Medical Pensions and Injury on Duty Awards along with the recruitment standards as published by the Home Office (circular 59 / 2004: National Recruitment Standards - Medical Standards for Police Recruitment), and as implemented by the PSNI. Copies of these documents are attached as Appendices A and B.

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:-

The Information Commissioner's Office – Northern Ireland
3rd Floor
14 Cromac Place
Ormeau Road
Belfast
BT7 2JB.

Telephone: - 0303 1231114
Email: - ni@ico.org.uk

Please be advised that all Policing Board replies under Freedom of Information will 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.