



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

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

FOI Reference number: FOI 90/2024

Date: 22 November 2024

Request:

The following is requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please provide a full list of papers/documents/reports by title presented to members of the Policing Board before and during its monthly meeting in September. This should include all meeting agendas.

Please provide a copy of all papers/documents/reports presented to the board before and during the meeting.

Answer:

We can confirm that the Policing Board (the Board) does hold information within the scope of your request.

Following consideration of your request the Board has concluded that the exemption under Section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies.

Section 14 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

- *'14(1) - Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.'*

The Board considers that the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation as it would require us to divert limited resources to conduct a detailed examination of the material.

As a public authority, the Board must give precedence to the delivery of its front-line services. It was not the intention of the FOI Act to place an undue and onerous burden on public authorities. This is recognised in the Ministry of Justice's Fees and Aggregation guidance which states that *'The principle behind the Freedom of Information Act is to give people rights to access information held by public authorities (unless it is exempt). However, that right to information must be balanced by the public authority's duty to deliver its front-line services.'*

Therefore, the Board will not be answering this request. You should also note that there is no public interest test to be considered under this exemption.

Any further correspondence on this matter will be treated as a request for an internal review of this decision.

By way of assistance the Minutes of the Policing Board meeting on 5 September 2024 can be viewed on our website at the following link –

[Policing Board Minutes 5 September 2024 | Northern Ireland Policing Board](#)

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.