

Peter Gilleece
Director of Policy

Our Reference: **FOI 36/2012**

Date: 21 August 2012

Ms Claudine Paquet

Email address: request-124113-c63471e3@whatdotheyknow.com

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I am writing in relation to your request for information, which was received by the Northern Ireland Policing Board (the Board) on 03 August 2012 and processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In your FOI request you asked six questions and for clarity I will refer to the question and then the response as follows:

Question 1

How many reviews of police injury pensions have been conducted since January 2005? I ask that you provide the data set out year by year commencing from January 2005 up to and including December 2011.

Answer 1

Records of reviews completed did not commence until January 2007. The records for the reviews year to date are as follows:

- January 2007 to December 2007 - 118 reviews
- January 2008 to December 2008 - 102 reviews
- January 2009 to March 2010 - 71 reviews

Note: Reviews were suspended by the Home Office in March 2010

- January 2012 to Present - 34 reviews

Question 2/Answer

In relation to questions 2 (a) to 2 (c) we are unable to provide this information. This is due to the fact that a review of a percentage award is not the only factor which influences the amount of IOD pension payable.

Northern Ireland Policing Board
Waterside Tower, 31 Clarendon Road, Clarendon Dock, Belfast BT1 3BG
Tel: 028 9040 8500 **Fax:** 028 9040 8533 **Textphone:** 028 9052 7668
Email: information@nipolicingboard.org.uk **Web:** nipolicingboard.org.uk

When a review takes place a percentage disablement is calculated to reflect a former police officers possible earning capacity as a civilian and the impact as a result of the injury on duty. ~~The percentage disablement award is advised to the PSNI Pensions Branch who then calculate the~~ amount of each former officers monthly payment. This is also influenced by specific state benefits each former officer may or may not receive. The monthly payment may fluctuate without a review of the percentage disablement award due to changes in the state benefit receivable.

Question 2 (d)

How many were of former officers at or over the age of 65?

Answer 2 (d)

This information is only available for the year to date. Of the 34 reviews commenced 26 were officers at or over age 65.

Question 2 (e)

Of the reviews identified in 'd' above, how many resulted in a reduction to the lowest band of pension payment?

Answer 2 (e)

Of the 34 reviews commenced in the year to date 26 of former police officers are at the age of 65 or over, 13 of the cases are at various stages of the review process and not yet completed. Of the 13 reviews completed in 10 cases the percentage calculation resulted in the former officers being reduced to a Band 1.

If you have queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above in any future communications. If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Board's Chief Executive, Freedom of Information Complaints Section at the following address:

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

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot make a decision 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
51 Adelaide Street
BELFAST
BT2 8FE

Telephone: 02890 269 380
Fax: 02890 269 388
Email: ni@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



PETER GILLEECE
Director of Policy