

16 July 2024

REFERENCE: FOI/24/81

Dear Sir

Thank you for your request for information dated 27th June 2024 and detailed below.

Dear Department of Justice (Northern Ireland),

In my previous FOI, some of the questions could not be answered due to the budget not having being received yet – the previous FOI made reference to a PSNI request for funding for a new recruitment campaign.

- 1. Has this funding request been approved?*
- 2. When was this campaign requested to be?*
- 3. When is it expected to commence?*

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives you two rights of access when you write to us asking for information. You have the right to know whether we hold recorded information falling in scope of your request, and you have the right to receive this recorded information subject to cost limit or exemption.

Has this funding request been approved?

The PSNI bid for an additional £8.2m to support recruitment of additional officers and staff was included in the bids from DOJ to the Department of Finance. Decisions on funding allocations are ultimately made by the NI Executive. PSNI received £60.6m of

the extra £95m allocated to DOJ by the Executive in April and £23m of the £35m allocated to the Department as a result of the June budget monitoring exercise.

It is for PSNI to prioritise their budget in exercising their operational independence.

When was this campaign requested to be?

The Department does not currently hold information regarding commencement of a PSNI recruitment campaign. You may wish to contact PSNI directly.

When is it expected to commence?

The Department has not been advised of a date of commencement of a PSNI recruitment campaign for police officers.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you request an internal review please do so in writing stating the reasons to the address above.

If following an internal review you were to remain dissatisfied you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask him to investigate whether the DOJ has complied with the terms of the FOIA. You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

The Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out.

Further details on the role of the Information Commissioner and the handling of appeals can be found at: www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager