



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 10\4471

4 August 2010

Dear Mr Burns,

To ask the Minister of Justice (i) to detail the total number of claims for compensation which were made against the PSNI in each of the last five years; (ii) to detail the number of these claims which were (a) successful (b) unsuccessful, in either the courts, or out of court settlements; (iii) to detail the total amount of compensation awarded; and (iv) to provide a summary of the reasons for these claims.

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister of Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

The information you have requested is not readily available. The database currently used by our Legal Services Branch has limited functionality in the production of management information. To provide the details required would require records to be manually checked or necessitate the development of a query tool. Either proposal would be labour intensive and at a disproportionate cost.

PSNI can however provide you with the information pertaining to the total number of claims made against the PSNI for the years requested, along with a summary of reasons for these claims.

Please be advised that our compensation database contains 7 categories of claims as follows:

- AT - Claims from public for damage caused by Army Technical Officers
- AW - Claims from public re allegations of wrongful arrest, assault by police etc
- CP - Claims from public for damage to property
- CS - Claims from support staff for damage to property
- IT - Industrial Tribunal claims

- PI - Claims from police and support staff for personal injury
- PP - Claims from police for damage to property

Details of claims received in the years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009/10 in the various categories are as follows:-

CATEGORY	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
AT	11	4	3	3	6
AW	269	249	183	243	287
CP	201	178	153	186	233
CS	20	15	9	15	1
IT	21	551*	1687*	32	1894*
PI	1831**	345	624***	2133***	2840***
PP	57	43	32	28	15
TOTAL	2410	1385	2691	2640	5261


* Increase due to claims for breach of Working Time Directive

** High number of claims due to claims for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

*** Increase due to high number of claims for Hearing Loss

If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.



David Moore
Chief Inspector
for Chief Constable

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