
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations revoke and replace the Royal Ulster Constabulary (Promotion) Regulations 1995 (S.R. 1995/120) (“the 1995 Regulations”).

Under the 1995 Regulations a constable or sergeant to be qualified for promotion to sergeant or inspector respectively had to obtain a pass in the qualifying examination for promotion to that rank. Under these Regulations there will no longer be qualifying examinations. Instead examinations for promotion to sergeant or inspector will form part of each selection process. Regulation 3 enables those who are qualified for promotion under the 1995 Regulations and those who pass the qualifying examination held in 2008 to be selected for promotion until 31 December 2010 without undertaking a new selection examination.

Regulation 4 provides that to be qualified for promotion to sergeant a constable must have completed his probationary period and a sergeant, to be qualified for promotion to inspector must have completed his probationary period in the rank of sergeant.

Regulation 5 provides that promotion from one rank to another shall be by selection. Each selection process for promotion to sergeant or inspector shall include a selection examination.

Regulation 6 provides that members promoted to sergeant or inspector must serve a probationary period in the promoted rank. If the Chief Constable considers that a probationary sergeant or inspector is unlikely to perform the duties of the rank satisfactorily he may reduce the rank of the member concerned.

Regulation 7 permits the Chief Constable to promote a member temporarily. This power does not extend to a deputy chief constable temporarily promoted to Chief Constable.

Regulation 8 allows members participating in the High Potential Development Scheme to be promoted to the ranks of sergeant, inspector, and chief inspector as soon as the Chief Constable determines that they are competent to carry out the duties of that rank irrespective of vacancies.

The Schedule makes further provision about selection examinations for promotion to sergeant and inspector.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Police Service of Northern Ireland (Promotion) Regulations 2008.