

PC O'Garlic on the wrong scent

A GOURMET policeman 'breathalysed' by his fellow officers has been given, a roasting by his boss.

It wasn't the stale smell of drink which made them hold their noses but the constable's love of garlic.

His colleagues were so angry they reported him to his superior, who carried out his own breath test.

And the 32-year-old RUC constable, married with two children, based at Strandtown station in East Belfast, failed. Now his inspector has sent him a written warning and threatened disciplinary action if

he arrives on duty 'smelling obnoxiously of garlic'. The warning letter was headed: 'Parading for duty smelling of garlic.'

Duty

It said: 'Different members of the section have complained about this and of the likely attitude of any members of the public with whom you may be in close proximity.'

'Please have greater consideration for your colleagues and the public whom you are likely to make contact with whilst on duty.'

The inspector's warning added: 'Any such contravention will be regarded as a disobedience to orders and will automatically be the subject of discipline.'

A senior RUC officer commented: 'It can be pretty offensive sitting in a Land Rover eight hours a day with a guy who smells of garlic the whole time.'

'It's the same as someone stinking of BO or who never brushes his teeth.'

'The man's fellow officers must have been desperate. Who can blame them for reporting him? It's not a hanging offence but everyone likes, a bit, of decorum.'