



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04237

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Cannabis factories

Request:

Q1) The number of cannabis factories closed down in your force area in

i) 2004/5

ii) 2005/6

iii) 2006/7

iv) 2007/8

v) 2008 - to date

Q2) The amount of cannabis seized in these time

Answer:

Answer 1.

In relation to question (Q1) the PSNI are unable to quantify the amount of cannabis factories closed down, as there is no definition on what constitutes a "cannabis factory".

Answer 2.

In relation to question (Q2) the decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full in relation to the amount of cannabis seized in the time periods requested.

Please find attached a table to answer question (B) records – Appendix A.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock

Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that all PSNI replies under Freedom of Information will be released simultaneously into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Appendix A

FOI-2008-04237 The amount of cannabis seized in these time periods

i) 2004/5 ii) 2005/06 iii) 2006/07 iv) 2007/8 v) 2008 – to date

Seizures of Cannabis by Financial Year: 2004/05 – July 2008/09

		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		April – July 2008	
Drugs Seized		No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized	No. of Seizures	Amount Seized
Cannabis:	Resin (kgs)	1,841	933.0	2,086	426.2	1,438	3,683.5	1,480	78.2	455	316.2
	Herbal (kgs)	131	19.7	180	68.6	486	26.6	811	70.1	257	138.5
	Plants	43	574	45	1,504	105	1,448	115	4,006	78	21,499
	Oil (gms)	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	12.0	1	2.0	0	0.0
	Joints	132	208	197	267	155	221	178	269	55	72

Note: 2008/09 Statistics are provisional and may be subject to minor amendment.

Source: Central Statistics Unit, Police Service of Northern Ireland, Lisnasharragh