



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04107

Keyword: Crime

Subject: ILLEGAL ACTIVITY/TRADING ON eBAY

Request:

Question 1: In the 07/08 financial year how many crimes were recorded by your force relating to illegal activity/trading on eBay and/or where eBay is the venue for a crime?

Question 2: If possible please provide a breakdown showing the number of each type of crime recorded.

Answer:

The cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate limit" as stated in the Freedom of Information Regulations 2004, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

There are no systems in place within the Police Service of Northern Ireland to capture the information requested. To ascertain if we hold the information and to retrieve it would require a member of staff to trawl through all the crime reported incidents for the 07/08 financial year looking for any mention of e-bay, in each of the eight Districts. This would be very time consuming and would take your request well over the "appropriate limit".

Under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act a public authority has a duty to assist the requester in refining the request in an attempt to supply some of the information requested, unfortunately, due to the nature of your request, I am not in a position to assist you on this occasion.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 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.