



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2008-04452

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** RAPES IN BELFAST FROM 1/1/07 - 31/12/07

### Request:

**Question 1** - The total number of rapes in Belfast from 1/01/07 till 31/12/07

**Question 2** - The total number of attempted rapes in Belfast from 1/01/07 till 31/12/07

**Question 3** - The breakdown of both the above into A + B District.

**Question 4** - The number of Charge / Summons issued per District?

### Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

**The information requested in questions 1 to 4 above is contained in the document 000001674 attached (appendix A).**

The PSNI 3 years ago recognised the need to restructure how they investigated rape and child abuse. Two internal reviews were conducted and as a result a decision was taken to establish RCU's and PPU's. This decision has taken account of best practice elsewhere in the UK and seeks to build on that knowledge. We are confident that the establishment RCU's and PPU's provides a more robust investigative structure with stronger mechanisms for the sharing of information internally and externally. This will achieve better outcomes for all victims of these types of offences. We will continue to review our processes making the necessary changes to enhance were possible the service.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the 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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk).

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

## Recorded and cleared rape offences

## Belfast

	Rape			Attempted Rape		
	Recorded	Cleared <sup>1</sup>	Cleared by means Charge/ Summons	Recorded	Cleared <sup>1</sup>	Cleared by means Charge/ Summons
A District	52	8	6	4	1	1
B District	58	8	6	4	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI

<sup>1</sup> Includes clearances by means of charge/summons