



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2008-04812

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** MEETINGS REGARDING RAPES IN SOUTH BELFAST

### Request:

**Has the District Commander for South Belfast (B District) had any meetings with the ACC (Assistant Chief Constable) for Urban within the last few months to discuss the upsurge in rapes in South Belfast? If so could I have copies of any minutes from those meetings between the two Officers?**

### Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested.

There has been no meeting between the District Commander for South Belfast and ACC Urban with regard to reported rapes within the South Belfast area over the last few months. There was a telephone conversation between Mr Finlay (ACC) and Mr Hamilton (District Commander) on the 22/10/08 at approximately 09:00 hours where the issue was discussed. Chief Superintendent Hamilton advised ACC Finlay of what steps were being taken in B District by the Area Commander, the Neighbourhood Policing Teams and the District Crime Team to provide high visibility patrols and reassurance to the local community. There are no minutes of this conversation. It should be noted that crime within the District is a matter for the District Commander who is also supported by the Crime Operations Department Rape Crime Unit. Briefings to the ACC on such matters would be routine and not ordinarily the subject of minuted meetings. Details of the monitoring and tasking of serious crime such as serious sexual offences is considered on a daily basis at District level and fortnightly as part of the tasking process under the National Intelligence Model.

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.