



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2008-04101

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: How many destruction orders i) applied for ii) granted and iii) carried out

Request:

Q1. How many destruction orders were i) applied for ii) granted and iii) carried out in the force area in each year since 1997.

You have clarified the above and confirmed that you are referring to Dangerous Dog Destruction Orders.

Answer:

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.

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.

In Northern Ireland, City, Borough and District [Councils](#) take the lead on dealing with Dangerous Dogs. Police also have full powers and for this reason I consulted Liaison Officers in our eight districts and asked if information was held and for estimates of the amount of time that would be required to search for and retrieve the information requested. Some Liaison Officers replied to the effect that they do not hold any relevant information. They are in a position to confirm this as either they themselves or other experienced officers within the district retain this personal knowledge. Some Liaison Officers made similar comments but also supplied time estimates. It is the total of these estimates that causes the appropriate limit to be exceeded. Some reasons given for larger estimates refer to a search of electronic and manual records and also that a unique number has not been allocated for this type of incident in the electronic administration system. In conclusion, it is very likely that even if searches were carried out for the requested information, it is unlikely that any relevant records would be found. You may wish to consider making requests to the City, Borough and District [Councils](#) or alternatively, the [Court Service](#) in Northern Ireland for this information. (Hyperlinks are provided in underlined text)

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.