



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-03670

Keyword: Crime

Subject: ATTACKS ON SYMBOLIC BUILDINGS

Request and Answer:

Question

Please provide information on any attacks on symbolic buildings (churches, parishes, Orange Halls, GAA premises etc.) in the Strabane District Council area within the last 3 years, including the number of overall symbolic buildings attacks within the area in the last 3 years.

Answer

Please see the table below which details the number of attacks on symbolic buildings in the Strabane area during the specified period.

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 letter.

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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

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

Number of attacks on symbolic premises¹

2007/08 to 2009/10

Strabane

Symbolic Premises Type	1 Apr 2007 - 31 Mar 2008	1 Apr 2008 - 31 Mar 2009	1 Apr 2009 - 30 Sep 2009²	Total
Orange Hall	2	3	1	6
GAA club	3	1	1	5
Church/Chapel	1	0	0	1
School	2	0	0	2
All symbolic premises	8	4	2	14

Source: PSNI Central Statistics Unit

¹The figures on attacks on symbolic premises have been extracted from the PSNI's crime recording system and relate to all offences where a sectarian motivation has been recorded, occurring at symbolic premises and where the premises is the intended target.

²Figures for 2009/10 are provisional and will be subject to change.

Data quality: the PSNI's statistics on crimes with a sectarian motivation are derived from a motivation 'tick box' contained in the Occurrence Management Form which has to be completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported crime. The correct application of a sectarian motivation is not quality assured by the PSNI's Central Statistics Branch.