Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request Number: F-2009-03863

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Drug Offences in 2009, 2008 and 2007

Request and 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.

Question

In relation to the number of people in Northern Ireland who have been charged with drugs offences in 2009, would you have figures relating to the age and sex of the people charged, and also a breakdown of the nature of the offences?

Would you also have the same information relating to the years 2008 and 2007?

Answer

Please see below.

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.psni.police.uk

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

FOI-2009-03863

1) In relation to the number of people in Northern Ireland who have been charged with drugs offences in 2009, would you have figures relating to the age and sex of the people charged, and also a breakdown of the nature of the offences?

2) Would you also have the same information relating to the years 2008 and 2007?

Persons Charged with Drug Offences by age, gender and type of offence

1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008

	Possession			Supply			Other			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10-19	81	3	84	37	2	39	-	-	-	118	5	123
20-29	218	7	225	160	12	172	-	-	-	378	19	397
30-39	74	7	81	71	10	81	1	-	1	146	17	163
40-49	18	2	20	26	3	29	-	-	-	44	5	49
50-59	7	-	7	14	-	14	-	-	-	21	-	21
60-69	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	**398**	**19**	**417**	**309**	**27**	**336**	**1**	**-**	**1**	**708**	**46**	**754**

Note: For the purposes of counting the number of persons charged, only the most serious offence is counted per person.

1st April 2008 – 31st March 2009

	Possession			Supply			Other			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10-19	113	7	120	41	5	46	-	-	-	154	12	166
20-29	293	9	302	150	21	171	1	1	2	444	31	475
30-39	93	4	97	97	10	107	1	-	1	191	14	205
40-49	34	3	37	35	7	42	-	-	-	69	10	79
50-59	2	-	2	10	1	11	-	-	-	12	1	13
60-69	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2
Total	**536**	**23**	**559**	**334**	**44**	**378**	**2**	**1**	**3**	**872**	**68**	**940**

Note: For the purposes of counting the number of persons charged, only the most serious offence is counted per person.

1st April 2009 – 30th November 2009

	Possession			Supply			Other			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10-19	68	4	72	21	-	21	-	-	-	89	4	93
20-29	213	10	223	139	11	150	-	-	-	352	21	373
30-39	74	6	80	53	5	58	1	-	1	128	11	139
40-49	23	2	25	35	3	38	-	-	-	58	5	63
50-59	3	-	3	10	-	10	-	-	-	13	-	13
60-69	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	**381**	**22**	**403**	**259**	**19**	**278**	**1**	**-**	**1**	**641**	**41**	**682**

Note: For the purposes of counting the number of persons charged, only the most serious offence is counted per person.

Note: 2009/10 statistics are provisional and may be subject to minor amendment.

Source: Central Statistics Unit, Police Service of Northern Ireland, Lisnasharragh