



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2009-00497

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** DRUG RAPE ATTACKS

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1.

The number of people who have reported having their drinks spiked in the last year. (And if possible comparative figures for the last five years)

#### Question 2.

The total number of complainants of drink spiking last year who were drug-tested to see if they had drugs such as Rohypnol, Ketamine, GHB or GHL still in their system.

#### Question 3.

The total number that proved positive

#### Question 4.

The number of people who have reported having their drinks spiked and alleged they had been robbed or assaulted. (And if possible comparative figures for the last five years)

#### Question 5.

The number of people who have reported having their drinks spiked and alleged they had been sexually abused or raped. (And if possible comparative figures for the last five years)

#### Question 6.

The number of drink-rape victims last year who reported it within 48 hours of the alleged incident and were drug-tested to see whether they had drugs such as Rohypnol, Ketamine, GHB or GHL still in their system.

#### Question 7.

The number of the above that proved positive.

#### Question 8.

The number of prosecutions for drink spiking, or rape or assault assisted by the use of drink spiking drugs.

#### Question 9.

The number of convictions for drink spiking, or rape or assault assisted by the use of drink spiking drugs

**Answer.**

PSNI do not retain this information in an easily retrievable format, and therefore 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. Retrieval will involve a manual search of all records which would exceed the cost threshold and Section 12 would be relevant.

A case-by-case search would have to be carried out in relation to all recorded drug incidents. To conduct this search would entail going back into all files where allegations have been made and this would involve a disproportionate amount of resources, which could impact, on the PSNI's ability to deliver a professional service to the community.

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.

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

The PSNI have also considered whether we can be of any assistance in terms of helping you refine your request to bring it under the cost limit however the nature and structure of the information unfortunately makes this impossible. It should be noted that even if this information were retrievable that it would be subject to exemptions.

If you have any queries regarding your request or this decision please do not hesitate to contact 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 PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <http://www.psni.police.uk/>

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