



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-00157

Keyword: Crime

Subject: PERSONS UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE MURDERED WITH A KNIFE

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 1

The number of people aged under 20 years of age who have been murdered with a knife (i.e. stabbed to death) between 1st Jan 2008 and 31st Dec 2008. I would like to be told the names and ages of the victims.

Answer

There were no murder offences committed in 2008 where the victim was aged under 20 years and was stabbed with a knife.

Question 2

The number of people aged under 20 years who have been injured by a knife between 1st Jan 2008 and 31st Dec 2008 where at least one perpetrator was charged with attempted murder. I would like to be told the ages of the victims.

Answer

There were 3 offences of attempted murder where the victim was aged 20 years and under, two of which, knives were used in the incidents and the third, a samurai sword was used. The ages of the victims for the knife incidents were both 18 years and the victim from the samurai sword attack, 17 years. For both the knife incidents an offender was charged.

Question 3

For each instance of a victim listed in response to question 1 above, I'd like to know the number of individuals under the age of 20, who were charged with either murder or manslaughter. I would like to be told the ages of these alleged perpetrators.

Answer

No information required, as there were no murder offences in Q1.

Question 4

For each instance of a victim listed in response to question 2 above, I'd like to know the number of individuals under the age of 20 who were charged with attempted murder. I would like to be told the ages of these alleged perpetrators

Answer

There was one offender charged in each of the attempted murder offences where a knife was used. The offenders were aged 18 and 19 years.

Question 5

The ethnic backgrounds of victims under the age of 20 who were stabbed to death or injured between Jan 1 2008 and Dec 31 2008 where

a) At least one of the alleged perpetrators was also under 20 and was charged with either murder, manslaughter or attempted murder.

Answer

The ethnic backgrounds of all victims and offenders in all cases are classed as White-North European.

Question 6 The ethnic backgrounds of alleged perpetrators under the age of 20 involved in knife crimes between Jan 1 2008 and Dec 31 2008 who were charged with either murder, manslaughter or attempted murder where:

a] The victim was also under the age of 20

Answer

The ethnic backgrounds of all victims and offenders in all cases are classed as White-North European.

Please note that this information is provisional and may be subject to change.

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

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.