



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-02727

Keyword: Crime

Subject: PERSONS UNDER 17 HELD ON DNA DATABASE - F DISTRICT

Request and Answer:

Question

How many persons' aged under 17 and under currently have their DNA held on the PSNI database within F District? Please provide a breakdown by area/DCU (i.e. Fermanagh, Dungannon, Cookstown and Omagh).

In each area, please state how many have not been convicted of a criminal offence.

Answer

The attached table reflects data held as of 17th September 2009 and the figures reflect those who have a flag of "DNA confirmed" i.e. that DNA has been taken and confirmed as being that person.

Please find below an explanation as to why PSNI are now able to provide the requested data in relation to DNA.

PSNI were not able to supply the requested information in relation to your previous FOI request F 2009 2170, as at the time of your request, we no longer held the information in the same format as in 2004. It was held on different computer systems, which had not been designed to be interrogated for the particular types of questions you had asked.

PSNI were in the process of reviewing information held in these systems in relation to DNA in order to make it more easily extracted in the future. This review is still ongoing however, when the details of this request were forwarded to the relevant PSNI departments, I was notified that an initial merge of data held may be able to provide the information you have subsequently requested. A search and retrieval was conducted and the information that you requested was retrievable and has been provided in the attached table.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the 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

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.

F 2009 2727

How many persons' aged under 17 and under currently have their DNA held on the PSNI database within F District?

Please provide a breakdown by area/DCU (i.e. Fermanagh, Dungannon, Cookstown and Omagh).

-In each area, please state how many have not been convicted of a criminal offence.

Aged 17 and under	Convicted	Not Convicted	Convicted but Cautioned
Cookstown	57	10	12
Dungannon	67	14	8
Fermanagh	69	13	24
Omagh	71	17	18
Total	264	54	62

It should also be noted that the caution/convicted data may not refer to the case the DNA was taken for.