



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-03560

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS AT 12TH JULY VENUES.

Request and Answer:

I am writing to confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information and the answer to your question is as follows:

Question 1

Can you please let me have the numbers of participants and spectators who attended each of the following 12th July venues this year:-

Co Antrim – Larne, Lisburn, Portglenone, Ballymena, Glenarm, Ballymoney

Co Armagh – Armagh

Belfast – Belfast

Co Down – Banbridge, Annalong, Bangor, Killyleagh

Co Fermanagh – Lisbellaw

Co Londonderry – Kilrea, Londonderry

Co Tyrone – Coagh, Dromore, Fivemiletown

Answer

The statistics you request are not routinely recorded by the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate records or documents relevant to each area of your request. Please see statistics which refer to B, C and D Districts only:

Belfast – approximately 10,000 people attended.

Bangor – approximately 25,000 people including participants of the parade attended.

Killyleagh – approximately 10,000 people including participants of the parade attended.

Lisburn – approximately 6,000 participants and 5,000 - 6,000 spectators attended.

The marchers in A District only pass through enroute to the City Centre. Likewise the vast majority of 'watchers'. If figures were available and each District submitted separate returns they would be distorted as we would be counting the same people twice.

Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold any further information to which you seek access.

Under the public order legislation organisers of all public possessions are required to apply for permission to hold a public possession, part of which includes estimated numbers of those participating. The Parades Commission receives such notifications and may therefore hold the information to which you request. Please see link to the Parades Commission as follows:

<http://www.paradescommission.org/parades/?keywords=parades+statistics>

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.