



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-03389
Keyword: Crime
Subject: Cannabis Cultivation

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 arrests in your force of under-18 year olds for cannabis cultivation between 1990-2010 (NB If these dates are too long please narrow it to 2000- 2010).

Answer

There were 12 persons under the age of 18 who were arrested for cultivating cannabis between the 1st April 1996 and the 30th November 2010. PSNI Central Statistics Unit only has details on drugs seizures and arrests from 1st April 1996. Therefore no information is held prior to this date.

Question 2

The charges brought after these arrests or whether they were discharged.

Answer

Of the 12 persons arrested between the 1st April 1996 and the 30th November 2010*, 7 were charged with cultivating cannabis.

Question 3

The ages of each young person you arrested.

Answer

The ages of the 12 young persons arrested for cultivating cannabis are as follows:

Age	Number
15	2
16	2
17	8

Question 4

The ages of each young person you charged.

Answer

The ages of the 7 young persons charged for cultivating cannabis are as follows:

Age	Number
15	1
16	2
17	4

Question 5

The nationalities of each young person you arrested.

Answer

The nationalities of the 12 young persons arrested for cultivating cannabis are as follows:

Nationality	Number
Northern Ireland	11
China	1

Question 6

The nationalities of each young person you charged.

Answer

The nationality of all 7 persons charged was perceived as being Northern Ireland.

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.

