



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01205

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Convictions - 10 - 17 yr olds

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.

Question 1

I request figures for each of the last 5 years for the number of convictions handed down to people aged between 10 – 17.

Question 2

Please provide a breakdown of the type of crimes the individuals in Q1 were convicted for. For example criminal damage, arson, sexual offences, burglary etc.

Answer

PSNI only commenced recording of court results on the 30 November 2009. The table below details offences recorded from 30 November 2009.

187 persons aged 10 -17 yrs old have been convicted since 30 November 2009.

Question 3

In addition I request figures for each of the last five years for the number of people aged between 10 – 17 who had ten or more convictions when they were sentenced for a crime.

Answer

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for the number of people aged between 10 and 17 with 10 or more convictions when they were sentenced for a crime, would exceed the “appropriate costs limit” under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450. To provide this information would require a much more detailed interrogation of the database and would exceed the 18 hours limit.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice in relation to question 3 of your request.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland have also considered whether we can be of assistance in terms of helping you refine your request to bring it under the request limit however, the nature and structure of the information unfortunately, makes this impossible.

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.

OFFENCES BY AGE	Age					
OFFENCES	13	14	15	16	17	Grand Total
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT ON A FEMALE OR BOY UNDER 14 YEARS			1	2	1	4
ARMED WITH OFFENSIVE WEAPON WITH INTENT TO COMMIT OFFENCE					1	1
ARSON		1				1
ARSON ENDANGERING LIFE - RECKLESS				1		1
ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM		1				1
ASSAULT OCCASIONING ACTUAL BODILY HARM				2	2	4
ASSAULT ON POLICE		1	2	10	3	16
BURGLARY AND THEFT - DWELLING		7		2	4	13
BURGLARY AND THEFT - NON DWELLING			2	3	3	8
BURGLARY WITH INTENT TO CAUSE UNLAWFUL DAMAGE			1			1
BURGLARY WITH INTENT TO STEAL - DWELLING				1	3	4
BURGLARY WITH INTENT TO STEAL - NON DWELLING				3		3
BURGLARY WITH INTENT TO STEAL - NON-DWELLING					3	3
COMMON ASSAULT (not female or boy under 14)		4	5	1	6	16
CRIMINAL DAMAGE				1		1
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	1	5		14	14	34
FORGERY					4	4
GOING EQUIPPED FOR THEFT				1	2	3
HANDLING STOLEN GOODS (BY DEALING)			1			1
HANDLING STOLEN GOODS (BY RECEIVING)					2	2
MAKING OFF WITHOUT PAYING			1		2	3
NON-ADULT ENGAGING IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY IN PRESENCE OF A CHILD UNDER 13 (OFFENCES AFTER 1.2.09)					1	1
OBSTRUCTING POLICE					4	4
POSSESSING ARTICLE WITH BLADE OR POINT IN PUBLIC PLACE				1	1	2
POSSESSING CLASS A CONTROLLED DRUG					1	1
POSSESSING CLASS C CONTROLLED DRUG				1	1	2
POSSESSING OFFENSIVE WEAPON IN PUBLIC PLACE			1	2	1	4
POSSESSION OF A CLASS B CONTROLLED DRUG		1		2	5	8
POSSESSION OF FIREWORKS					1	1
RESISTING POLICE			2	5	3	10
ROBBERY				2		2

THEFT			1	2	4	7
THEFT - SHOPLIFTING			2	4	8	14
THEFT FROM DWELLING				1		1
THEFT FROM PERSON				1		1
THEFT FROM VEHICLE				1		1
THRETO DAMAGE PROPERTY		1				1
TO TAKE CONVEYANCE					1	1
WOUNDING WITH INTENT TO DO GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM	1					1
WRONGFULLY ENTERING PREMISES				1		1
Grand Total	2	21	19	64	81	187