



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F 2010 01650

Keyword: Crime

Subject: DNA PROFILES

Request and Answer:

Request

I am writing in relation to DNA. I wish to apply for a full disclosure of the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- 1- How many people currently have their DNA profiles on the PSNI database?
- 2- State how many of the above have no criminal record
- 3- Please provide a breakdown of all people with profiles on the DNA database by age (under 10s, 10-16, 16-18 and 18+)
- 4- In each instance, state how many have no criminal record

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 information that the PSNI holds to you.

Question 1

How many people currently have their DNA profiles on the PSNI database?

Answer 1

The number of persons on the PSNI Niche computer system with a confirmed DNA Profile is 91407; this is not solely a DNA Database system.

Please note that due to the PSNI migrating information between systems and the complex interpretation of the messaging to complete this; there is an extremely small possibility of error (an estimate would be less than 1%).

Question 2

State how many of the above have no criminal record

Answer 2

PSNI does not correlate DNA profiles with "no criminal record".

Question 3

Please provide a breakdown of all people with profiles on the DNA database by age (under 10s, 10-16, 16-18 and 18+)

Answer 3

Age	No of Profiles
Under 10	None
10-15 yrs*	914
16-17 yrs*	2072
18+ yrs	88421

*As you could have had a 16 year old recorded in two of the categories i.e. 10 -16 and also in the 16 -18 age band the parameters of the age bands have been amended.

Please also note that due to the PSNI migrating information between systems and the complex interpretation of the messaging to complete this; there is an extremely small possibility of error (an estimate would be less than 1%).

Question 4

In each instance, state how many have no criminal record

Answer 4

PSNI does not correlate DNA profiles with “no criminal record”.

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.