



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01925

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Individuals Charged With Murder and Bail

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

In the 2009/10 financial year how many individuals did your force charge with the offence of murder?

Answer

In the 2009/10 financial year **91** individuals were charged with the offence of murder

Question 2

How many of the individuals referred to in Q.1 were at the time they were alleged to have committed the offence either on police or court bail?

Answer

Recorded information indicates that **one** individual who was charged with murder in the period was on police or court bail at the time of the offence.

Question 3

If you can provide a breakdown of how many were on (a) police bail and (b) court bail then I would be grateful. If it is not possible or would put the cost of the question over the prescribed limit then please ignore Q.3.

Answer

Recorded information indicates that **one** individual who was charged with murder in the period was on court bail at the time of the offence. There are no records which indicate that any individual who was charged with murder, was on Police Bail at the time of the offence.

It should be noted that during the course of the year in question, due to a transition to a new system, information regarding bail was contained on two separate databases. The original database contained information regarding court bail up until 30 November 2009. Post that date, the

information is held on the new database. The old database held no information on police bail. The new database does contain information on Police Bail post 30/11/09. The above answers should therefore be treated with caution as they may not accurately represent the number of individuals who were on bail at the time of the alleged offences with which they were charged.

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.