



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2010-01912

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Money Warrants

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Please state how many people in Northern Ireland are in jail at present for non-payment of money warrants. Please provide comparison for Dungannon and F-District.

Question 2

Please state the highest money warrant that was left unpaid in Dungannon sector in each of the years 2009, 2008 and 2007. Please provide comparison for Cookstown and F-District.

Question 3

Please state how many people were jailed for the non-payment of money warrants in Northern Ireland in 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006. Please provide comparison for the same years for the Dungannon, Cookstown and Omagh sectors and F-District.

Question 4

Please state how much was paid in money warrants in Northern Ireland in each of the years 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006. Please provide comparison for the same years for the Dungannon, Cookstown and Omagh sectors and F-District.

Question 5

Please state how much was left outstanding from money warrants in Northern Ireland in each of the years 2009, 2008, 2007 and 2006. Please provide comparison for the same years for the Dungannon, Cookstown and Omagh sectors and F-District.

Answer

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12 and Section 14 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the decision has been taken to refuse your request.

Section 12(4) of the Act provides that the Secretary of State may make regulations with regard to the Appropriate Limit and Fees. The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 were made in pursuance of this (and other) subsection(s) of the Act.

Regulation 5 of the Regulations provides that where two or more requests for information are made

by one person, (or by different persons who appear to be working in concert), and where the requests relate, to any extent, to the same or similar information, and the requests are received within 60 working days of each other, that the requests may be aggregated for the purpose of calculating costs. In other words the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests may be added together and if the total exceeds the appropriate limit, then the requests may be refused in pursuance of Section 12.

In my correspondence to you on July 14, 2010 I advised you that the five questions that you had forwarded in separate correspondence on July 7, 2010 had been aggregated into one request in compliance with Section 12 of the Act. As these questions are the same as the questions asked by you in your request, reference number F-2010-01572 and are therefore on the same subject, the PSNI is also entitled to include this request in the aggregation. As it was estimated that the cost of complying with request F-2010-01572 would exceed the appropriate limit, then whether this request is considered together with it or not, the cost of compliance would again exceed the 'appropriate limit' under Section 12(1) of the Act, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450.

Section 14 (2) of the Act states that where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

As this request is identical to your previous request as outlined, and as a reasonable interval has not elapsed, this request has also been deemed a repeat request in accordance with Section 14(2) of the Act and the PSNI is not therefore obliged to comply with it.

If you have any queries regarding your request please write or contact the Freedom of Information Team on 028 9070 0164. Please remember to quote the reference number listed above in any future communications with the Freedom of Information Team.

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.