



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-01155

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Arrests for Sexual Relations in Public

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 incidents where people have been arrested for having sexual relations in public, therefore committing an offence under the Home Office description of 'Act of outraging public decency', in the last three years – 2008, 2009 and 2010. If two or more people are arrested at the same time, this should count as once incident.

Question 2

For each incident, details should be given of the number of people involved, including their age and sex.

Question 3

For each incident, details should be given of where the incident took place, i.e. car park, public toilet, woods.

Question 4

For each incident, details should be given to the reasons of the arrest(s) and the charge(s) that each person faced.

Question 5

For each incident, details should be given as to which area within the force's area that the offence occurred.

Answer

PSNI do not use a specific offence code relating to sexual relations in a public place. The following information has been retrieved in relation to the following offences:

Engaging in Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory
Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory
Committing an Act Outraging Public Decency

Please see the table below detailing arrests for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Year	Number of Arrests	Number of People Involved	Age	Sex	Location	Reason for Arrest	Charge	Area
2008	1	2	30	Male	Public Toilet	Engaging in Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory	Charged to Court	B District
2009	1	1	57	Male	Public Toilet	Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory Indecent Exposure	Reported to PPS	C District
2010	1	2	61	Male	Public Toilet	Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory	Charged to Court	D District
2010	1	1	20	Male	Public Toilet	Engaging in Sexual Activity in a Public Lavatory	Charged to Court	H District

A district breakdown of areas can be viewed via the website link provided below:

<http://policenet/main-home/district.htm>

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.