



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-01575

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Incidents at School Premises 2006-2010

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

Please list the type of weapons police have confiscated from school premises along with the age of the child in possession of the weapon for the years broken down for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Please also list the amount of weapons confiscated for each year. Clarification was sought and it was confirmed that the request was for the total number of possession of weapons at school addresses and the weapons involved.

Answer 1

Please see the table below providing the list of weapons indicated as being involved in weapon possession offence incidents

	Number of offences where weapon type was involved
Air weapon/BB gun	1
Bat/club	1
Baton	1
Knife/bladed	20
Knuckle duster	1
Petrol bomb	2
Sword	1
Unknown	28

1. Violent crime includes offences against the person, sexual offences and robberies.
2. Weapon possession offences include Possessing ammo without certificate, Possessing article with blade or point in public place, possessing article with blade or point on school premises, possessing offensive weapon in public place, possessing offensive weapon on school premises, possessing petrol bomb in suspicious circumstances and possession of firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.
3. While the offence may have taken place on school premises, it may have occurred outside school hours.
4. The figures relate to weapon possession type offences where the weapon was involved in the incident – it is not known how the weapon was actually used or whether or not it was confiscated.

Question 2

Please list how many violent incidents were reported from school premises broken down for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Answer 2

Please see the table below containing the recorded violent crime and weapon possession offences where the MO information indicates that the incident happened at a school.

Northern Ireland		
	Violent Crime	Weapon possession
2006	374	12
2007	311	12
2008	278	9
2009	270	11
2010	262	11

Source: Central Statistics Unit, Police Service of Northern Ireland, Lisnasharragh

Question 3

Please list the type of illegal substances/drugs confiscated from school premises along with the age of the child in possession of the illegal substances/drugs broken down for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Please also list the total number of incidents for each year.

Clarification was sought and it was confirmed that the information requested was for the total number of drug offences at schools rather than the total number of arrests and there is no concern about ages.

Answer 3

Please find the table below containing the recorded drug seizure incidents where MO information indicates that the incident happened at a school.

Northern Ireland		
	Drug Seizure Incidents	List of Drugs Seized
2006	18	Cannabis Herbal, Cannabis Joints, Cannabis Resin, Ecstasy Tablets, Heroin Powder, Temazepam Tablets, Dihydrocodeine Tablets
2007	13	Cannabis Herbal, Cannabis Joints, Cannabis Resin, Cocaine Powder, Ecstasy Tablets
2008	18	Cannabis Herbal, Cannabis Joints, Cannabis Resin
2009	19	Cannabis Herbal, Cannabis Joints, Cannabis Resin
2010	17	Amphetamine Powder, Cannabis Herbal, Cannabis Joints, Cannabis Resin, Diazepam Tablets

Note: While the drug seizure incident may have taken place on school premises, it may have occurred outside school hours.

Source: Central Statistics Unit, Police Service of Northern Ireland, Lisnasharragh

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.