



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-00961
Keyword: Crime
Subject: Knife Crime in West Belfast

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

How many knife crimes were reported in west Belfast between April 2009 and April 2010?

Question 2

How many knife crimes were reported in west Belfast between April 2010 and present?

Answer

Please see the table below detailing selected violent and sexual offences¹ recorded by the police involving knives or sharp instruments² in West Belfast policing area, for the requested dates.

Please note that the knife/sharp instrument figures are based on weapon details taken from a live operational system and are therefore subject to change.

	1 st Apr 2009 – 31 st Mar 2010	1 st Apr 2010 – 28 th Feb 2011
Number of selected offences ¹ involving a knife/sharp instrument ²	58	57

Source: Central Statistics Unit, PSNI

¹ Offences covered are murder, manslaughter, infanticide, attempted murder, threats to kill, wounding/GBH with intent, firearms/explosives offences endangering life, administering poison, wounding/GBH, robbery, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, rape (including attempts) and sexual assaults.

² Knives/sharp instruments are as defined by the Home Office.

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.