



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-03560

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Osman Warnings

### **Request and Answer:**

I am looking for details of Osman Warnings issued by the police force.

#### **Question 1**

The number of Osman Warnings issued by the force in 2009.

#### **Question 2**

For each warning issued, please could details be given to the sex of the person and the age range of the person in an age range suitable to the force or the ranges 'under 10', '10-20' '20-30', '30-40', '40-50', '50-60', '60-70', '70-80', '80-90' and 'over 90'.

#### **Question 3**

For each warning issued, please could the category of the warning be given, including, but not exclusive to "threats to seriously harm" and "threats to kill".

#### **Question 4**

The number of Osman Warnings issued by the force in 2010.

#### **Question 5**

For each warning issued, please could details be given to the sex of the person and the age range of the person in an age range suitable to the force or the ranges 'under 10', '10-20' '20-30', '30-40', '40-50', '50-60', '60-70', '70-80', '80-90' and 'over 90'.

#### **Question 6**

For each warning issued, please could the category of the warning be given, including, but not exclusive to "threats to seriously harm" and "threats to kill".

#### **Question 7**

The number of Osman Warnings issued by the force up to the most recent possible date in 2011.

#### **Question 8**

For each warning issued, please could details be given to the sex of the person and the age range of the person in an age range suitable to the force or the ranges 'under 10', '10-20' '20-30', '30-40', '40-

50', '50-60', '60-70', '70-80', '80-90' and 'over 90'.

### **Question 9**

For each warning issued, please could the category of the warning be given, including, but not exclusive to "threats to seriously harm" and "threats to kill".

### **Answer**

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

It is estimated that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the "appropriate costs limit" under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which is currently set by the Secretary of State at £450. Information requested in questions 2, 5 and 8 is not recorded in this format and in order to retrieve it, a manual search of 4,937 forms (for 2009/2010 alone) would have to be carried out to determine the gender and the age range (which may or may not be stated on the form). It is considered that this would take in excess of 200 hours per year and may lead to further enquiries having to be carried out. Please note that when one part of a request exceeds the cost, the whole request is considered over the cost.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter should be considered as a Refusal Notice, and the request has therefore been closed.

### **Section 16 – Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance**

You may wish to submit a refined request in order that the cost of complying with your request may be facilitated within the 'appropriate limit'. In compliance with Section 16 of the Act, I have considered how your request may be refined to bring it under the appropriate limit. You may wish to refine your request to the number of Threat Message Forms issued per year.

Threats are all considered "Threats to Life" and not categorised as either threats to serious harm or threats to kill.

Submission of a refined request would be treated as a new request, and considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, including consideration of relevant Part II exemptions.

Please refer to the following web link for the Threats to Life procedure which may be of assistance to you.

[http://www.psni.police.uk/service\\_procedure\\_4-11.pdf](http://www.psni.police.uk/service_procedure_4-11.pdf)

If you have any queries regarding your request or this 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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.