



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-00483

Keyword: Crime

Subject: People Arrested and Charged Regarding Extreme Pornography

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 and the answer to your questions are as follows:

Question 1

For 2010:

How many people have been arrested on suspicion of possessing extreme pornography?

Answer

5 people were arrested.

Question 2

How many were charged with possessing extreme pornography?

Answer

3 people were charged.

Question 3

What was the average sentence received for possessing extreme pornography?

Answer

The average sentence received was 6 months.

Question 4

Please specify the gender of the people arrested.

Answer

All arrested were male.

Question 5

Please also provide information for 2009.

Answer

10 people were arrested.

4 people were charged.

No records are held by PSNI for anyone being sentenced in 2009.

All arrested were male.

Please note although we have provided an answer regarding the average sentence as above, PSNI only hold details of the convictions for these specific offences which are conveyed to us by the Northern Ireland Courts.

All information on sentencing is held by the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service. Further information on the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service can be found at www.courtsni.gov.uk.

It should be borne in mind however that not every arrest necessarily leads to a prosecution and that not every prosecution will necessarily lead to a conviction or sentence.

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.psnipolice.uk

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