



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-03918

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Racially Motivated Crimes

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

Question

I would like to ask how many racially motivated crimes were recorded in the most recent year and for the year 1999. I would also like to ask what the sanction detection rate was for both of those years for racially motivated crime. For both years please provide the overall sanction detection rate for ALL crimes. Please provide the exact number and the percentage for all sets of figures.

If you don't have figures for as far back as 1999 please provide it for the closest year. If you don't have racially motivated as a category please provide "hate" crime or however you label similar crimes.

Refinement received from requester:

Further to my request today I would like to refine it having received some feedback already on figures. Can I ask as before for the figures for the most recent year? With regard to the figures for 1999, I realise this not going to be possible and as I need a comparison year I would like to ask for figures from 2007. So to clarify I would like two years of figures, one the most recent calendar year and the other for 2007.

Answer

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide the applicant with a notice which: (a) states the fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption has been applied:

Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

The information you have requested is available from the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Publication Scheme and can be accessed using the following link;
http://www.psni.police.uk/racist_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2010-11.xls

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 email.

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.