



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2011-00919

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Youngest Persons Arrested

### 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 answers to your questions are as follows.

### Question

In relation to the 2010 calendar year please answer the following questions:

- 1) The age of the youngest person arrested on suspicion of possessing illegal drugs;
- 2) The sex of the individual;
- 3) Was the individual charged, cautioned, etc?
- 4) What the drug they were found in possession of?

### Answer

- 1) The youngest person arrested for a drugs offence in 2010 was 13 years old.
- 2) This person was male.
- 3) The person was released pending a report to the Youth Diversionary Officer.
- 4) The male was arrested for suspicion of possession of a class B drug. However, no drugs were recovered from his person.

### Question

Also,

- 1) The age of the youngest person arrested for possession of an illegal firearm;
- 2) The sex of the individual;
- 3) Was the individual charged, cautioned, etc?
- 4) What the firearm they were found in possession of?

### Answer

- 1) The youngest person arrested for possession of an illegal firearm was 16 at the time of arrest.
- 2) This person was male.
- 3) The person was released and reported to the Public Prosecution Service.
- 4) The firearm was an air rifle.

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](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.psnj.police.uk](http://www.psnj.police.uk)

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