



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2012-00508

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Incidents Involving Sheep

### 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

I am a reporter on Farmers Guardian and we are doing a series of stories on dogs worrying, injuring and killing livestock. I am writing to ask if, under the Freedom of Information Act, you could make available the following information.

From January 1 2011 to December 31 2011 how many incidents were reported involving the following:

- Dogs attacking sheep
- Dogs injuring sheep
- Dogs killing sheep

### Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. The PSNI do not record these types of incidents, however Central Statistics Unit has retrieved the number of criminal damage offences where the damaged property is recorded as sheep. There has been one such offence recorded in 2011.

To assist you with your enquiry the PSNI, Wildlife Liaison Officer has advised that local councils may record information relevant to your request, as sheep worrying falls under council legislation - Dogs (NI) Order 1983.

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.psnipolice.uk](http://www.psnipolice.uk)

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