



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2013-04349

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Acid Attacks

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

How many assaults have there been involving a corrosive substance (often known as ‘acid attacks’) in the last year (April 01 2012 to March 31 2013)? If possible, please could you provide the same information for each of the previous 2 financial years; April 01 2011 to March 31 2012, and April 01 2010 to March 31 2011?

#### 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.

Please see the table below detailing recorded assault offences where an acidic/noxious substance<sup>1</sup> was involved as a weapon (April 2010 – March 2013)

Year	Number of recorded offences
Apr 10 – Mar 11	1
Apr 11 – Mar 12	4
Apr 12 – Mar 13	1

<sup>1</sup> Where the no weapons subtype was a noxious substance/acid or the incident summary mentioned an acidic substance involved in the assault.

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

#### Question 2

How many of the victims were male?

#### Answer

Four of the victims were male.

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a

way as to identify those records that are relevant.

**Question 3**

What was the ethnicity of the victims (if recorded)? Please give numbers or percentage.

**Answer**

All victims were white.

**Question 4**

How many of these incidents were believed to be connected with honour-based crime? (if recorded)

**Answer**

No honour based incidents recorded.

**Question 5**

How many arrests were made in connection with acid attacks?

**Answer**

There have been 5 arrests made in connection with acid attacks, to date.

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

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