



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2013-06205

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Arrests Made Of Children Aged 12 And Under In 2013

### Request and Answer:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request details of the number of arrests made of children aged 12 and under.

#### Question 1

For 2013 so far, and for each policing district, please disclose the following:

- The number of boys arrested at each age 12 and under (i.e. the number arrested aged 12, the number aged 11, aged 10, etc)?

#### Question 2

- The number of girls arrested at each age 12 and under (i.e. the number arrested aged 12, the number aged 11, aged 10, etc)?

#### Question 3

- Please give a breakdown showing the offences for which children aged 12 and under were arrested (i.e. the number arrested for theft, etc)?

#### Question 4

- Please give a breakdown showing the outcome of the arrests (i.e. the number of arrests that led to a caution, charge, released with no action taken, etc).

\*\*If this request cannot be carried out for each policing district, please limit this request to the A and B districts.

### 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:

In relation to Question 1, Question 2 and Question 3 please see PDF document at end of letter which shows all the answers to these questions.

In relation to Question 4, I have attached an Excel Spreadsheet which reflects the data you requested.

Please note that the number of offences is higher than the number of arrests this is because each

arrest record can contain multiple offences, eg a person may be arrested for burglary, but then may be investigated for several offences such as burglary/criminal damage/possession of an offensive weapon/ resisting arrest etc.

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.

**Number of custody records in 2013 where the person arrested<sup>1</sup> was age 12, 11, 10 etc, by Policing District**

	Males			Females			Total
	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12	All Ages
A District	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
B District	0	0	3	0	1	0	4
C District	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D District	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
E District	0	0	8	0	0	7	15
F District	0	1	0	0	0	3	4
G District	0	3	9	0	0	0	12
H District	1	0	7	0	0	0	8
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52</b>

Source: PSNI Statistics branch

<sup>1</sup> Arrested and detained at a police custody suite

Please note that while there were 52 custody records where the person arrested was aged 12 or under, this represented 31 different persons as some individuals were arrested on more than one occasion.

**Principal offence person was arrested for**

Principal offence	Number of offences
Common assault	14
Theft	10
Burglary	6
Arson	5
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3
Criminal damage (including attempts)	3
Riotous behaviour	3
Riot	2
Attempted robbery	1
Threat to kill	1
Disorderly behaviour	1
Possessing petrol bomb	1
Possession of firearm	1
Possessing offensive weapon	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>

Source: PSNI Statistics branch

As each custody record may contain multiple offences, the above table represents the most serious offence the person was arrested for.