



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2013-00296

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Facebook

Request and Answer:

Question

I would be happy for my request F-2013-00003 to be re-submitted in a refined format as suggested in the PSNI response. ICS could provide the number of incidents where facebook or twitter were mentioned in the incident investigation logs, however the following caveats would apply:-

- The number would relate to reported incidents, rather than the number of individual crimes.
- If facebook/twitter is mentioned in an incident investigation log, this does not imply that a crime occurred.
- If facebook/twitter is mentioned in an incident investigation log, this does signify that facebook and/or twitter were used by PSNI officers as part of the incident investigation.
- The ability to search investigation logs electronically was commenced on 14/10/2009, therefore ICS could only provide statistics from this date onwards.

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 find below the number of incidents where facebook or twitter are mentioned in the incident investigation logs:

2009: Total = 4

2010: Total = 73

2011: Total = 1541

2012: Total = 2887

2013: Total = 229 (01 January 2013 to date)

Please note that the above caveats apply to the information provided in response to your request.

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.

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

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