



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-04860

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Details Of Sex Offenders In Belfast Area

Request and Answer:

Question 1

All together how many convicted sex offenders/ convicted paedophiles are living in the whole of the Belfast area?

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.

The figure provided shows the number of Registered Sex Offenders resident in Belfast which is currently 352.

Question 2

Can you break down into different areas how many convicted sex offenders/paedophiles are living in each of the 4 different areas i.e. "East Belfast"/"West Belfast"/"North Belfast, (I already have the estimated amount in the south Belfast area so I don't need that amount in these questions.)

Answer

The data below is for registered sex offenders.

North Belfast 92
West Belfast 23
East Belfast 63
South Belfast 174

Question 3

Can you give me the amount of hostels that only house convicted sex offenders/ paedophiles in (1) South Belfast (2) east Belfast (3) north Belfast (4) west Belfast?

Answer

No hostels in Northern Ireland are used solely for the accommodation of sexual offenders, and not all hostels house sex-offenders.

Question 4

All together how many convicted sex offenders/paedophiles have to sign the sex offenders register in

all of Belfast?

Answer

352 have to sign the sex offenders register in Belfast.

Question 5 (this was marked as question 6 on your request)

Can you give me the amount of the different categories and how many convicted paedophiles/sex offenders are on these different categories? The amount in the most dangerous to the amount in the least dangerous and how many categories are there?

Answer

Categories are agreed at Local Area Public Protection Panel (LAPPP) dependant on their current risk and not in relation to most / least dangerous. To answer this question in the manner it is currently asked would not be reflective of the Public Protection Arrangements Northern Ireland (PPANI) guidelines.

There are 3 categories category 1 being the lowest risk and category 3 being the highest risk offenders.

The numbers in Belfast signing the sex offenders register by category

Category 1 – 323

Category 2 – 26

Category 3 – 0

Pending – 1

No Category Set (Prior to current arrangements) - 2

Question 6 (this was marked as question 7 on your request)

Can you give me the amount of categories? And how many convicts are in each category?

Answer

Clarification: In part (b) question 7 it is 'convicted'.

Clarification 2: Question 6 and question 7 are both the same question, there is no difference.

N.B. Question 5 was omitted from initial request so questions 6 and 7 became 5 and 6.

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.psni.police.uk

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