



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-05495

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Gender Identity Hate Crimes 2012 - 2014

Request and Answer:

Question 1

How many gender identity hates crimes were recorded in the years 2012, 2013 and for the period 1st January 2014 to 11th November 2014?

Question 2

If it falls within the time/cost limit, could you briefly outline the nature of each crime?

Question 3

Can I ask that my request also covers the number of transphobic hate crimes recorded in the calendar years 2012, 2013 and for the period 1st January 2014 to 11th November 2014?

Answer

Your request has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption has been applied:

Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

The information requested is available from the Police Service of Northern Ireland website and for your convenience I have provided the links to the Crime Statistics relevant webpages below.

Hate crime figures are published on the PSNI website on an annual and quarterly basis. The published figures include racist, homophobic, sectarian, disability, faith/religion and transphobic hate motivations. The definitions for hate motivation can be accessed through:

http://www.psni.police.uk/hate_motivation_definitions.pdf and further details on how hate motivation figures are produced can be found in the crime user guide (http://www.psni.police.uk/user_guide.pdf).

The latest annual trends bulletin covers figures from the start of each data series to the financial year 2013/14 and can be accessed through the following link, along with accompanying spreadsheets (links also provided below):

Bulletin: http://www.psni.police.uk/hate_motivated_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2013-14.pdf

Racist motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/racist_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2013-14.xls

Homophobic motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/homophobic_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2004-05_to_2013-14.xls

Sectarian motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/sectarian_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2005-06_to_2013-14.xls

Faith/religion motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/faith-religion_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2005-06_to_2013-14.xls

Disability motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/disability_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2005-06_to_2013-14.xls

Transphobic motivation spreadsheet:

http://www.psni.police.uk/transphobic_incidents_and_crimes_in_northern_ireland_2006-07_to_2013-14.xls

The latest quarterly update covering the 12 months to 30th June 2014 is also available on the PSNI website

Bulletin: http://www.psni.police.uk/quarterly_hate_motivations_bulletin_apr-jun_14_15.pdf

Spreadsheet: http://www.psni.police.uk/quarterly_hate_motivations_update_apr-jun_14_15.xls

The next quarterly update covering the 12 months to 30th September 2014 is also available on the PSNI website at the link below:

http://www.psni.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/updates_hate_motivation_statistics.htm

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.