



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-03500

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Vists to Antrim Serious Crime Suite

Request and Answer:

Question 1

I would like to ask who is allowed to visit terrorist suspects whilst they are being questioned in the serious crime suite Antrim and what items are they allowed to keep on their person?

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.

At the custody officer's discretion, visits should be allowed when possible, subject to having sufficient personnel to supervise a visit and any possible hindrance to the investigation. Visitors will be permitted to retain personal property.

Question 2

How many criminal suspects have been allowed to keep and use a mobile phone whilst being questioned by PSNI?

Answer

Detainees are not permitted to retain mobile phones whilst in police custody.

The above information can be found on the Department of Justice N Ireland website under the PACE Terrorism Act : Code H and for your convenience I have provided the link below:

<http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/publications/publication-categories/pubs-policing-community-safety/policing/pace-code-h-june-2014.pdf>

Question 3

How many terrorist suspects have been allowed to have visits from convicted terrorists whilst in custody?

Clarification received: Thanks yes from January 2014 till date of request will do

Answer

Searches were conducted which failed to locate any records or documents to the level of detail

outlined in your request and based on the information you have provided. Accordingly, I have determined that the PSNI does not hold the information to which you seek access.

There is no requirement / need to record on any custody record whether a visitor has any terrorist convictions.

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.