



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2014-00848

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Test Purchasing of Alcohol

Request and 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 response is as follows.

Question 1

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request details about the PSNI's 'test purchasing of alcohol' scheme. More details on this can be found here:

http://www.psni.police.uk/index/youth/test_purchasing_alcohol.htm

Please disclose the following information. A copy of any reports compiled (redacted if necessary) as part of a review of the test purchase scheme since it was suspended.

Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. No reports have been compiled as part of the review of the test purchase scheme since it was suspended. The Scheme was suspended in order to allow an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) to be carried out. Following the completion of an Equality Impact Assessment a Final Decision Report will be compiled and this will be published on the PSNI website. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

Question 2

From November 2011, the number of complaints made about the scheme and a copy of each complaint (or if necessary a summary of each complaint).

Answer

Searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. No record of any complaints received regarding the test purchase of alcohol scheme. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

Question 3

In 2012 and 2013 for each test purchase carried out please disclose the date of the test purchase; where it took place (the town/city and if possible the name of the pub/off-licence/nightclub/etc); and the outcome (whether alcohol was sold to underage individuals or not).

Answer

Alcohol Test Purchases conducted in Belfast on 23 March 2012 resulted in 1 failure and Alcohol Test Purchases conducted in Portrush, Portstewart and Coleraine on 24 March 2012 resulted in 2 failures. **Please note:** to disclose further details i.e. the names of off-licences, nightclubs etc would identify specific premises and would likely attract exemption under the FOI Act.

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.psnipolice.uk

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