



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-02807

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Shoplifting in Omagh and Strabane

Request and Answer:

Question 1

I am looking for statistics regarding reported incidents of shoplifting in Omagh and Strabane between the last three years. (2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15).

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 see Table 1 at the end of this correspondence on page 1, showing the number of recorded shoplifting offences in the Omagh and Strabane Policing area for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Question 2

Also the breakdown of what type of shop i.e. high street store or independent.

Answer

Please see Table 1 at the end of this correspondence on page 1, showing the type of shop where these offences occurred. Our systems do not record whether a shop is independent or otherwise.

Question 3

How many arrests and charges have been made as a result of shoplifting in both Omagh and Strabane over the same period of time?

Answer

Please see Table 2 at the end of this correspondence on page 2, showing the number of people arrested for the offence of shoplifting in the Omagh and Strabane Policing area for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Please see Table 3 at the end of this correspondence on page 2, showing the number of people charged following arrest for the offence of shoplifting in the Omagh and Strabane Policing area for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

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.

Table 1 - Recorded shoplifting offences in the policing area of Omagh and Strabane by type of shop

Mo location subtype	2012/13		2013/14		2014/15	
	Omagh	Strabane	Omagh	Strabane	Omagh	Strabane
No location subtype recorded	31	4	10	4	3	7
Café						1
Car sales	1		1			
Charity shop	1		1			
Clothes shop	11	3	18	4	10	10
Convenience store	10	10	8	6	8	7
Cycle shop	1		2			
Department store	4	8	14	6	12	17
DIY store	4		1		2	1
Electrical store		1			1	
Fast food		1				
Firearms dealer/gunsmith		1				
Florist	1					
Furniture shop		1				
Gift shop			1			
Hairdresser	1				1	
House					1	
Jewellers						1
Music shop	1					
Newsagent						2
Off licence	4	3		1	1	
Other (commercial)		1				
Other (shop)	3	1	5	2	5	5
Pet shop				1		2
Petrol station	2		1	1	3	2
Pharmacy	2	2	8	8		6
Phone shop	1		1			
Public house				1		
Retail park/shopping centre	3					
Shoe shop			1			1
Sports shop	1	2	1	1		3
Street/road						1
Supermarket	18	22	30	31	29	35
Total	100	60	103	66	76	101

Data based on the recorded crime data series where the offence of shoplifting occurred in the policing area of Omagh or Strabane

Table 2 - Number of people arrested for the offence of shoplifting where the offence occurred in the policing area of Omagh or Strabane

	Omagh	Strabane
2012/13	53	26
2013/14	39	13
2014/15	10	5
	102	44

Table 3 - Number of people charged following arrest for the offence of shoplifting where the offence occurred in the policing area of Omagh or Strabane

	Omagh	Strabane
2012/13	19	7
2013/14	14	7
2014/15	1	3
	34	17

Source: Statistics Branch

Data for the arrests and charges is based on custody data where a person has been arrested and processed through police custody for the offence of shoplifting where the offence occurred in the policing area of Omagh or Strabane. Therefore, those arrested and street bailed or dealt with by other means e.g. discretionary disposal, pnd etc will not be included in the figure. The information provided is a count of individuals arrested per annum, a person may have been arrested more than once in a particular year and will be counted once in the annual figure, they may have been arrested in each of the years requested and will be counted in each year. Please note that the number of people arrested and charged is independent of the recorded crime data presented in table 1.

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.