



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-02137

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Incidents of Water Cannon and Compensation for Last 5 Years

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Please can you provide me with the number of incidents where a Water Cannon has resulted in an injury of a civilian in the last 5 years?

Question 2

Please can this be organised per year and show the number of civilians injured.

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.

A search, carried out by the relevant PSNI Departments, shows that in the last five years there has been one incident of a civilian alleging injury as a result of a water cannon incident being reported to the PSNI and this incident occurred in 2013.

Please note: This information is subject to change and is dependent on members of the public making themselves known to the PSNI through submission of a claim for compensation.

Question 3

Please could you provide me with the amount of money per incident that was provided in compensation, where a civilian was injured by the PSNI use of the Water Cannon in the last 5 years?

Please provide this information per year.

Answer

As of the 1st July 2015, when this request was received, the PSNI records show that no amount of money has been paid out in compensation for any injuries as a result of the use of a Water Cannon in the last five years.

Note: For your information, additional statistical information on the deployment and use of Water Cannon by the PSNI is made available publically on the PSNI website, a link to which is provided

below,

http://www.psnj.police.uk/index/updates/updates_statistics/updates-statistics_on_police_use_of_force-2.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.