



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2015-03357

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Stop and Search North Belfast

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

Furthermore our client has also requested the numbers of stop and searches carried out under TACT 2000 and Justice & Security Act 2007 within the same period namely 1 January 2015 and today's date 21 October 2015 in the North Belfast area.

#### Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Between 1st January 2015 and 26th September 2015 there were a total of 572 persons stopped and searched under the Terrorism Act 2000 (TACT) and the Justice & Security Act 2007 (JSA) in the police area equal to North Belfast. Changes to the number of policing Districts resulted in data no longer being recorded at North Belfast policing area level after 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

The 572 persons stopped and searched during this period includes persons stopped and searched under single powers (e.g. JSA Section 24), a combination of these powers (e.g. JSA Section 24 and TACT S43) and combinations of these powers and non-JSA/TACT powers (e.g. JSA Section 24 and Misuse of Drugs 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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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