



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-02636

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Stop And Search Rates

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Could you provide me with a breakdown of the ethnic composition regarding your forces stop and search rates for the last two years?

In order to avoid any confusion that might arise from this request, I have supplied a template table, for either reference, to the kind of information that I am requesting, or your own use

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.

The following table shows the number of persons stopped and searched/questioned by the PSNI during the last 2 financial years (1st April 2013 – 31st March 2015). The ethnicity groups recorded in the PSNI Stop & Search Database are those displayed in the table below and differ slightly from those you provided in your template. The PSNI do not record stop and searches by all the ethnic groups listed in your template but have released the information using the 13 ethnic groups that the PSNI record information under, including 'Not Specified'.

I have been advised that resident population figures can be ascertained from the website below:

<http://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/public/Home.aspx>

Ethnicity	Number of Stop and Searches/Questions between 1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014	Number of Stop and Searches/Questions between 1st April 2014 - 31st March 2015
White	31,151	26,363
Irish Traveller	738	619
Other	267	239
Mixed	80	72
Black Other	87	48

Black African	66	56
Chinese	53	38
Other Asian	45	26
Indian	25	21
Pakistani	14	11
Black Caribbean	12	8
Bangladeshi	5	3
Not specified	47	35
Total Persons	32,590	27,539

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.