



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-01839

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Police Officers Assaulted by the Public

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Figures showing the number of police and police community support officers in your force, assaulted by the public whilst on duty for the last financial year.

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.

The following figures are identified based on attempted murder, causing death by dangerous driving etc, GBH / wounding with intent, GBH / wounding without intent, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, assault on police with injury and assault on police without injury where the victim was a police officer on duty.

In the financial year 2014/2015 there were 2,866 assault offences where the victim was a police officer on duty.

Please note: PSNI do not employ police community support officers.

Question 2

Figures showing the number of police and police community support officers in your force, assaulted by the public whilst on duty for the financial years of 2013/14, 2012/13, 2011/12

Answer

In the financial year 2013/2014 there were 3,083 assault offences where the victim was a police officer on duty.

In the financial year 2011/2012 there were 3,498 assault offences where the victim was a police officer on duty.

In the financial year 2012/2013 there were 3,589 assault offences where the victim was a police officer on duty.

Question 3

Please could you give a breakdown of what is meant by assault. i.e. GBH, abuse etc.

Answer

Assault includes the following types of offence: attempted murder, causing death by dangerous driving etc, GBH / wounding with intent, GBH / wounding without intent, assault occasioning actual bodily harm, assault on police with injury and assault on police without injury.

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.