



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-03572

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Human Trafficking And Prostitution

Request and Answer:

Question 1

Since the 1st of June 2015, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of paying for sexual services of a person (Article 64A of the Sexual Offences Order 2008, as amended by section 15 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act)?

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 (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the information requested.

Background to convictions

The PSNI are not the primary record keeper for data on convictions. This information is updated by the NI Courts System and it may be better to direct questions on conviction data to them. However PSNI has provided the information we hold.

N.B. The data provided in the 2 tables is based on a search of the following offences.

- 1) Holding a person in slavery or servitude
- 2) Requiring a person to perform forced or compulsory labour
- 3) Arranging or facilitating travel of another with a view to exploitation
- 4) Committing an offence with intent to commit a slavery or human trafficking offence
- 5) Forcing another person to enter into marriage
- 6) Committing an offence of kidnapping or false imprisonment with intent to commit a slavery or human trafficking offence

In regard to part c) in your questions I can advise that PSNI do not hold a central register of when/if a discretionary disposal has been offered.

- a) 2
- b) 1
- c) No information held.
- d) 1

e) No convictions were found on PSNI systems

Question 2

In the last 5 calendar years, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of kerb crawling under Article 60 of the 2008 Sexual Offences Order 2008?

Answer

- a) 1
- b) 0
- c) No information held
- d) 1
- e) 1

Question 3

In the last 5 calendar years, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of causing or inciting prostitution for gain under Article 62 of the Sexual Offences Order 2008?

Answer

- a) 5
- b) 0
- c) No information held
- d) 0
- e) 0

Question 4

In the last 5 calendar years, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of controlling prostitution for gain under Article 63 of the Sexual Offences Order 2008?

Answer

- a) 43
- b) 25
- c) No information held
- d) 0
- e) 7

Question 5

In the last 5 calendar years, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of keeping a brothel used for prostitution?

Answer

- a) 58
- b) 28
- c) No information held
- d) 0
- e) 21

Question 6

Since January 13th 2015, how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of section 1 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act 2015?

Answer

- a) 0
- b) 0
- c) No information held
- d) 0
- e) 0

Question 7

Since January 13th 2015 how many individuals have been (a) arrested (b) charged (c) offered a discretionary disposal (d) taken a discretionary disposal or (e) convicted of section 2 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act?

Answer

- a) 1
- b) 0
- c) No information held
- d) 0
- e) 0

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.