



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-03496

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Mental Health Incidents 1st January - 11th December 2017

Request and 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.

Request

How many incidents where mental health was a factor have been recorded from 01/01/17- 11/12/17?

Answer

Between 1st January and 11th December 2017 there were 19,983 incidents closed with the qualifier code of 'MENT'.

The 'mental health' (MENT) qualifier code that can be applied to a reported incident has the following definition:

This qualifier is to be used to endorse an incident involving a person who has, or appears to be suffering from, a mental disorder or mental impairment including learning difficulties. Forces are reminded that they should ensure that appropriate risk assessments have been carried out in response to calls considered or perceived to have a mental health or delusional cause or contributory factor. Staff should not assume that callers have mental health issues simply on the basis that the caller fails to respond or gives unexpected responses. The caller may have difficulty hearing or understanding. Where staff are uncertain it is suggested that they seek the advice of a supervisor. (This qualifier can be used against any main code).

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

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.