



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2016-00504

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Crimes Against MPs

Request and Answer:

Question

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

In the last three and a half years, how many occasions have MP's reported crimes against them to your force? For instance: stalking, cyber bullying, harassment, etc.

I appreciate that occupation (member of parliament, etc.) may not have been reported in every instance and that the true figure may be higher – however, I would like any information that you do hold.

I would like this information broken down by 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 so far.

Whilst I appreciate you may not be able to provide names of MP's who made the reports, I would be grateful if you could break down by the offences reported by the years requested.

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.

Please find a table included below which includes a breakdown of the number crimes reported to the PSNI, from the 1st January 2013 to the 24th June 2016, where the victim's occupation has been recorded as a 'Member of Parliament'.

Occupation details on the PSNI system are linked to the individual person's record and it is possible that the information may not have been updated since the record was initially created. Therefore the victim may not have been an MP at the time of the reported crime. The occupation type 'Member of Parliament' is also used for people who are MLAs or Councillors.

Note: This information is based on data extracted from a live recording 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.

Offence Reported	2013	2014	2015	2016
Assault with or without injury	2	1	1	1
Threats to kill / harassment	3	4	2	0
Other violence against the person	1	0	0	0
Theft	2	3	1	1
Criminal damage	3	3	0	0
Offences against the state or public order	0	0	1	0
Total Offences Recorded	11	11	5	2

Source: Statistics Branch, PSNI

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.