



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2016-02006

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Illegal Raves

Request and Answer:

Question

I am writing to make a request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act. In order to assist you with this request, I am outlining my query as specifically as possible. If, however, this request is too wide or too unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the act, you are required to advise and assist requesters.

I am looking to find out as much detail and information as possible on the number of callouts to incidents described as illegal raves. Specifically, my questions are as follows:

- How many times have police been called out to deal with an illegal rave in the area in the last three years? I would like this data broken down into years.
- How many of callouts have lead to arrests?

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 below which includes the requested information on the number of occurrences where a police officer has been dispatched to an incident where an 'illegal rave' has been mentioned in the call for service* during the requested time period of 1st January 2013 to the 30th November 2016.

Year	Occurrences	People Arrested
2013	3	0
2014	7	0
2015	7	0
2016 (to 30 Nov)	3	0
Total	20	0

Source: Statistics Branch, PSNI

***Note:** It is not possible to verify that an illegal rave has actually taken place at any of these occurrences and examples of the information included are notifications to the police that an 'illegal rave' is due to take place at a certain location in the future. There is also the possibility that an illegal rave may have taken place at an incident where police were dispatched but as it is not described as such in the call for service therefore it is not included in the above table. The figures for the 2016 calendar year are provisional in nature and may be subject to minor amendment.

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.