



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2017-02801

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Paramilitary Style Attacks

**Request and Answer:**

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates.

**Request 1**

How many paramilitary style attacks took place in each of the last five years?

**Answer**

Please see Table 1 below showing the number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style assaults and shootings during the last five years, by the most recent rolling twelve month period.

**Table 1**

Year	Number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style assaults	Number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style shootings	Total
1 Nov 2012 – 31 Oct 2013	36	26	62
1 Nov 2013 – 31 Oct 2014	52	27	79
1 Nov 2014 – 31 Oct 2015	60	28	88
1 Nov 2015 – 31 Oct 2016	67	22	89
1 Nov 2016 – 31 Oct 2017	71	24	95

(1) *Paramilitary style assaults/shootings that result in death are not recorded as casualties of paramilitary style attacks but are counted as 'security related deaths'.*

(2) *Figures from April 2017 onwards are provisional and subject to change.*

**Request 2**

For the attacks in the last year, could I find out (a) which group they were attributed to (b) weapon used (c) condition of the victim?

**Answer**

Please see Table 2 below showing the number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style assaults and shootings between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 broken down by attribution.

**Table 2**

<b>Attribution</b>	<b>Number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style assaults</b>	<b>Number of casualties as a result of paramilitary style shootings</b>	<b>Total</b>
LOYALIST	57	3	<b>60</b>
REPUBLICAN	14	21	<b>35</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>95</b>

(1) Figures from April 2017 onwards are provisional and subject to change.

(2) Attribution is as perceived by PSNI based on the information and does not necessarily indicate the involvement of a paramilitary organisation.

Please see Table 3 below showing the weapons that have been used on the 95 casualties of paramilitary style assaults and shootings between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Type of weapon is not recorded for paramilitary-style shootings and has been provided below as 'FIREARM'.

**Table 3**

<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
FIREARM	24
BAR BELL	2
BASEBALL BAT	2
BASEBALL BAT & KNIFE	1
BASEBALL BAT, HAMMER	2
BASEBALL BATS	8
BASEBALL BATS / METAL PIPES	1
BASEBALL BATS & CLAW HAMMERS	1
BASEBALL BATS & HAMMERS	1
BATONS	1
BATONS & BASEBALL BATS	1
BRICKS	1
CROWBAR	3
CROWBAR & BASEBALL BATS	1
FLICK BATON	2
FLICK STICK	1
HAMMER	4
HAMMERS	1
HAMMERS & CROWBARS	2
HANDGUN	2
HATCHET	2
IRON BAR	1
IRON BARS	3
KNUCKLE DUSTER / WEIGHTS BAR	1
METAL BAR	1
N/K	1
NONE	11
PICK AXE HANDLES BASEBALL BAT	1
POLES & IRON BARS	1
SEWER RODS BASEBALL BAT KNIFE	1
SLEDGE HAMMER	2
UNKNOWN	5
WOODEN BATS	3
WOODEN PLANKS & STICKS	1

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures from April 2017 onwards are provisional and subject to change.

Please see Table 4 below showing the injuries that were recorded by Statistics Branch for each of the 95 casualties of paramilitary style assaults and shootings between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017.

**Table 4**

Nature of injuries	Frequency
3 X GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO LOWER LEFT LEG.	1
ARM INJURY	1
BLACK EYE AND SUSPECT BROKEN JAW.	1
BLACK EYE, BRUISING TO BACK AND POSSIBLE BROKEN FINGER ON RIGHT HAND.	1
BROKEN LEG, BROKEN ANKLE, BROKEN ARM AND NUMEROUS PUNCTURE WOUNDS.	1
BRUISING TO LEGS.	1
BRUISING TO SHOULDER AND DEEP GASH TO BACK OF HEAD.	1
BUMPS AND BRUISING.	1
CUT TO EYE, BRUISING AND HEAD INJURIES.	1
CUTS AND BRUISING.	1
CUTS AND SWELLING TO BACK OF HEAD AND BACK.	1
CUTS GRAZES TO FOREHEAD AND INJURIES TO HAND.	1
CUTS TO BACK OF HEAD AND BRUISING AND SWELLING TO FACE AND AND MOUTH.	1
CUTS TO HEAD.	1
CUTS, BRUISING AND SWOLLEN CHEEKBONE.	1
DEEP LACERATION TO TOP OF HEAD AND FOREHEAD AREA, CHEST INJURIES AND SERIOUS INJURIES TO RIGHT HAND AND ARM.	1
EYE INJURY.	1
FACE AND LEG INJURIES.	1
FACIAL INJURIES.	2
FACIAL LACERATIONS CUT TO TOP OF HEAD, SUSPECT BROKEN LEFT ARM AND MISSING TEETH.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO BOTH ANKLES.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO BOTH LEGS.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO CALF, KNEE AND ANKLE.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO EACH ANKLE.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO EACH LEG.	1

GUNSHOT WOUND TO RIGHT ANKLE.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO RIGHT LEG.	1
GUNSHOT WOUND TO RIGHT.	1
GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO BOTH ANKLES, BOTH KNEES AND BOTH ELBOWS.	1
GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO BOTH CALVES.	1
GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO BOTH LEGS.	2
GUSHOT WOUND TO RIGHT ANKLE.	1
HEAD & FACIAL INJURIES.	1
HEAD AND ARM INJURIES.	1
HEAD INJURIES, BROKEN RIGHT WRIST AND SEVERE BRUISING TO LEFT ARM, BOTH LEGS AND TORSO.	1
HEAD INJURIES.	1
HEAD INJURY.	2
HEAD WOUND.	1
INJURIES TO BACK OF HEAD.	1
INJURIES TO LEGS, ARMS AND BACK.	1
INJURY TO ELBOW, ANKLE AND FOOT.	1
INJURY TO LEFT EYE, SWELLING TO LOWER LEFT ARM (SUSPECT FRACTURE), BRUISING TO LEFT LEG AND PAINS TO RIBS AND BACK.	1
INJURY TO LEFT SIDE OF FACE, BACK OF HEAD AND BRUISING TO UPPER TORSO.	1
LACERATIONS AND BRUISING TO HEAD AND FACE.	1
LEG AND HEAD INJURIES.	1
LEG INJURY.	1
LEVEL OF INJURIES NOT RECORDED.	3
MINOR CUTS AND BRUISING TO BOTH HEAD AND BODY.	1
MINOR INJURIES TO SHINS, ARMS, SHOULDERS AND BACK OF HEAD	1
MINOR INJURIES.	5
MULTIPLE MINOR CUTS AND BRUISING TO BOTH TORSO AND HEAD.	1
NO VISIABLE INJURIES NOTED.	1
OPEN LEG FRACTURE AND PAINS TO ARM, CHEST AND LEGS.	1
PUNCTURE WOUND TO TORSO.	1
PUNCTURE WOUNDS TO BOTH LEGS AND SUSPECT BROKEN RIBS.	1

SERIOUS BRUISING TO LEGS.	1
SERIOUS CUTS TO ARMS AND LEGS.	1
SERIOUS FACIAL INJURIES.	1
SERIOUS INJURIES TO HEAD AND FACE.	1
SEVERAL OPEN HEAD/SCALP WOUNDS.	1
SHOT IN BOTH HANDS AND BOTH LEGS (THIGH).	1
SHOT IN BOTH LEGS	1
SHOT IN LEG	1
SHOT IN THE LOWER CALF.	1
SIGNIFICANT INJURIES TO HIS HEAD AND ARM	1
SINGLE BULLET WOUND TO EACH CALF.	1
SINGLE GUNSHOT WOUND TO BOTH KNEES, 1 X GUNSHOT WOUND TO THIGH AND 1 X GUNSHOT WOUND TO ABDOMIN.	1
SINGLE GUNSHOT WOUND TO RIGHT LEG.	1
SINGLE GUNSHOT WOUND TO TOE.	1
SUSPECT BROKEN ARM, TWO BROKEN FINGERS, SUSPECT BROKEN SHOULDER, PELVIS INJURIES AND DEEP LACERATIONS TO BACK AND HEAD.	1
SUSPECT BROKEN ARM.	1
SUSPECT BROKEN HAND.	1
SUSPECT BROKEN NOSE AND INJURIES TO RIBS.	1
SUSPECT BROKEN WRIST, BROKEN TOOTH, CUTS AND BRUISING.	1
SUSPECT FRACTURES TO BOTH ANKLES AND VERIOUS OTHER INJURIES.	1
SUSPECT FRACTURES TO BOTH ARMS AND BOTH LEGS.	1
SUSPECTED BROKEN CHEEK BONE.	1
SUSPECTED BROKEN LEFT ARM AND BRUISING TO LEFT SIDE OF BODY.	1
SUSTAINED FRACTURED RIBS.	1
SUSTAINED INJURIES TO HEAD, ARMS AND LEGS FROM HAMMER BLOWS.	1
TWO BROKEN ARMS, BROKEN LEFT WRIST & BROKEN RIGHT LEG.	1
TWO GUNSHOT WOUNDS (ONE TO EACH LEG).	1
TWO GUNSHOT WOUNDS TO LEFT THIGH.	1
TWO SUSPECTED BROKEN WRISTS, LACERATION TO ELBOW, INTENAL BLEEDING, HEAD INJURIES AND CUTS AND BRUISING TO TORSO.	1
UNKNOWN INJURIES.	2

<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>
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<sup>(1)</sup> Figures from April 2017 onwards are provisional and subject to change.

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](mailto: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](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.