



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-01302

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Abuse at Children's Homes Derry

Request and Answer:

Question

I've revised a previous request taking on board advice from a member of the FOI team.

My request is:

Offences of violence, be it physical, sexual, abductions, or otherwise at children's care homes in Derry (focusing on Strand Rd and Waterside stations) in the past year, March 2016 - March/April 2017

Detailing the charges and any convictions that came as a result of these allegations

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.

Included in the table below is the requested information on the number of recorded offences of 'violence against the person' and sexual offences where the crime occurred within the Derry City Local Policing Team area and where the MO location was recorded as being a 'Children's Home.'

This table also includes the requested breakdown of the number of recorded offences which resulted in a charge and conviction outcome.

Year	Number Recorded	Number resulting in a Charge Outcome	Number resulting in a Conviction Outcome
1st March 2016 - 30th April 2017	50	29	0

Source: PSNI Statistics Branch

Please 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 and will be subject to change as investigations into crimes may still be ongoing.

The records identified have not been examined to establish if the circumstances of each incident amount to abuse. They are simply the number of offences under the violence against the person classification and the sexual offences classification and where the MO location is 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.psnipolice.uk

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