



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-01429

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Female Victims of Homicide

Request and Answer:

Question

Please could you provide us with a list of all female victims of homicide killed between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2016 which PSNI has been responsible for investigating and, for each victim:

- the date of the homicide;
- the age of the victim;
- the ethnicity/race of the victim;
- the names of the victims and the accused;
- the relationship between the accused and the victim; and
- if identified, the way in which the victim was killed.

Please note that our request is not limited to those killings that have been categorised for statistical purposes as 'domestic homicide', but includes all women killed by homicide in Northern Ireland.

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 contains the requested breakdown on the number of female victims of homicide who were killed between the 1st January 2015 and the 31st December 2016.

Date Occurred	Victim Age	Victim Ethnicity	Victim name	Accused name	Relationship	Death
23-Feb-15	61	White	Pauline Carmichael	Alan Foster	Not Recorded	Drowning
02-Aug-15	30	White	Jennifer Dornan	Raymond O'Neill	Not Recorded	Stabbed
12-Dec-15	52	White	Lija Arustamova	Viktors Arustamovs	Mother & son	Strangulation
31-Mar-16 - 03-Apr-16	31	White	Laura Marshall	Gary O'Dowd	Boyfriend & girlfriend	Drowning

Note: A number of these cases are still ongoing and, while the name of the accused has been provided, a conviction may or may not have taken place at this time.

Additional information on these cases has previously been publically reported by local media outlets and links have been provided below in case they are of further assistance to you.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/exsoldier-alan-foster-pleads-guilty-to-pauline-carmichael-murder-in-antrim-35217683.html>

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2017/03/28/news/man-wanted-by-psni-over-murder-of-jennifer-dornan-out-of-hospital-and-back-in-prison-979679/>

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/man-to-appear-in-court-charged-with-killing-his-mother-34283498.html>

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/man-accused-of-murdering-his-girlfriend-in-brief-court-appearance-34692055.html>

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.