



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2017-00533

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Anti-Semitic Motivated Incidents

### Request and Answer:

#### Question

The number of anti-Semitic or racially motivated incidents, as defined by the amended Anti-terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001, that were recorded to have taken place on Queen's University campus in the past five years (2012-2017)?

**Clarification Request:** The PSNI Central Statistics department have informed us that the PSNI record six different forms of hate motivations including those with a racist motivation and those with a religious motivation. The definitions of these can be found at:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/documents/hate-motivations-definitions.pdf>

Anti-Semitic incidents/crimes are a subset of all incidents/crimes with a faith/religious motivation under the Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004. Can you please provide further details on the relevance of the Anti-Terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001 to this FOI request, for example, are there specific offences that you are interested in?

In addition, the Central Statistics department have raised a separate issue in the identification of incidents/crimes which have taken place on Queen's University campus. As the 'campus' is quite widespread, and not defined, there is the possibility that the address information recorded on our system may not specifically mention the Queen's University and therefore searching any address information attached to the incident for Queen's University/QUB may not identify all incidents due to the way in which the address has been recorded i.e. usually by a specific address or street name etc.

Bearing this information in mind can you provide any clarification as to how you wish us to proceed with this FOI request?

**Clarification Response:** Yes these are the offences I am interested in. Only crimes registered as "anti-Semitic" offences.

In terms of the campus included in this FOI, please see the following link:

- <http://www.qub.ac.uk/puremaths/btm30/campusmap.pdf>
- List of roads in main university campus:

Jubile rd, Dunluce Av, Lisburn rd, College Gardens, Elmwood mews, Elmwood Avenue, Fitzwilliam

Street, Camden Street, Fountainvillege Avenue, Lower Crescent, Upper Crescent, Mount Charles, Botanic Avenue, university Street, College Green, University Square, College park, Rugby road, Stranmillis Road, Land seer Street, Elaine Street, Pretoria Street, Stranmillis Gardens, Maline Road, Cloreen Park, Chlorine Gardens, Lennoxvale, Sans Souci Park

## **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.

Searched carried out by the PSNI's Central Statistics branch have confirmed that one anti-Semitic incident from the requested area was reported to the PSNI in the past five years, 2012-2017.

**Please Note:** The streets listed in your request above are all public roads and so it cannot be determined if this incident was connected in any way to the Queen's University or its students. This information has been identified based on a search of address information held on the PSNI crime recording system. It is dependent on the address information having been entered correctly and in such a way as to identify those records which are 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](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.