



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2017-00278

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Sheep Worrying

Request and Answer:

Question

I am looking for some information on dogs attacking livestock, namely sheep. From January 1 2016 to December 31 2016, how many incidents were reported and/or numbers of sheep were involved in the following: Dogs chasing/worrying sheep/Dogs attacking/injuring sheep/Dogs killing sheep?

Answer

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

Whilst the worrying of livestock including sheep is a council dog warden responsibility, our Wildlife Liaison Unit has recorded the following cases between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2016;

Dogs chasing/worrying sheep - 53

Dogs attacking/injuring sheep - 36

Dogs killing sheep - 39

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.