



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2017-01552

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Reports of Missing Persons

**Request and Answer:**

**Question 1**

I am hoping to access information regarding reports of missing persons to the PSNI over 5 years, from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2017.

How many reports of adults (over 18) going missing were made in the specified 5 year period?

**Question 2**

How many of those missing cases remained open for longer than 3 months?

**Question 3**

How many of those missing cases remained open for over a year?

**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 displays the requested information in relation to the number of reports of missing persons made to the PSNI. Please note that ‘missing persons’ were not recorded on the PSNI systems until the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013, so the figures provided below are from that date onwards.

Year	Number reports of adults (over 18) going missing (Q1)	Number those remaining open for 3+ months (Q2)	Number those remaining open for 1+ years (Q3)
2013	3946	65	41
2014	4812	67	41
2015	5936	73	44
2016	5287	54	27
2017	2405	2	0

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.