



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01753

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme

Request and 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:

Request:

How many applications have been made to Police Service of Northern Ireland under the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme, often referred to as "Sarah's Law", from:

- January 1 to July 1, 2018
- January 1 to December 31 2017;
- January 1 to December 31 2016;
- January 1 to December 31 2015;
- January 1 to December 31 2014;
- January 1 to December 31 2013;
- January 1 to December 31 2012;
- January 1 to December 31 2011;
- January 1 to December 31 2010;

For each of the above years, please state how many disclosures about registered child sex offenders have been made by Police Service of Northern Ireland.

For each of the above years, please state how many referrals to children's social care have been made as a result of the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme.

Answer:

2016: 16

2017: 7

2018: 5 (1st January to 1st July)

With regards to Social Care Referrals, as a part of the CPDS process checks would be completed with Social Services for all applications.

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.psnj.police.uk

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