



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-02783

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Burglary Reports

**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 1**

I wish to request access to the following records/details: For a period between 1 January 2013 and 31 October 2018, figures to be given yearly, the number of burglary reports, with the number of burglaries to be given as a monthly figure

**Answer**

This information is publicly available through the Open Data NI portal as follows:

<https://www.opendatani.gov.uk/>

The police recorded crime in Northern Ireland data series provides monthly burglary figures to December 2018.

**Request 2**

A yearly figure to be given for the number of times each of the following weapons appear in police reports on burglaries: Crossbow; Hammer; Knife; Gun; Crowbar; Baseball bat; Cricket bat; and Hurling stick.

**Answer**

The weapons pick list on Niche the PSNI crime recording system, has options of crossbow, hammer, knife, gun and crowbar. There is not an option of baseball bat or cricket bat however, there is an option of 'bat/club' and there is no option for hurling stick.

**Recorded burglary offences where a specified<sup>1</sup> weapon was involved in connection to the incident ( 1 January 2013 – 31 December 2018)**

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Burglary Offences	35	21	32	32	25	35

<sup>1</sup> Bat/club, crossbow, crowbar, hammer, knife or gun

The weapon information is recorded at the incident level as being involved in the incident, the weapon may have been used as a threat and may not have been used in the burglary offence recorded. There may have been more than one of the weapons above in each incident.

Please note: This information is based on data extracted from a live system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

Changes can be expected to figures from 1st April 2018 as records are subject to ongoing validation and quality assurance processes until publication in May 2019; annual revisions to previously published financial year figures may also be applied at this time.

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.psnipolice.uk](http://www.psnipolice.uk)

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