



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-00299

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Criminal Damage to Buildings in Armagh Council Area

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 would like to request information regarding incidences of criminal damage to buildings and Arson Attacks in the Armagh Council area from the year 2000 until as close to the present as possible. Location and type of property involved (Orange Hall, churches, private dwellings etc) would be greatly appreciated.

Clarification Sought

PSNI Statistics Branch has advised Armagh Council is not held on PSNI systems, Armagh falls within the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon area. Statistics Branch can provide the data for this area or alternatively, you can specify which District Electoral Areas (DEA) or wards they wish to have included in the search criteria. Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon consist of the following DEA's: Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon, Cusher, Lagan River, Lurgan and Portadown. The DEA of Armagh consists of the following wards: Blackwatertown, Cathedral, Demesne, Keady, Navan and The Mall.

Statistics Branch can provide the area specified by you and provide the location MO sub type which includes Orange Hall, Church, House etc, please note this information is only available from 1 April 2007 (data available from the introduction of NICHE).

Clarification Received

Happy to have the information for Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon area as suggested by PSNI Statistics Branch.

Answer

Please find attached a spread sheet providing information in relation to recorded offences of Criminal Damage and Arson in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon District 1 April 2007 - 7 May 2018. The information was extracted from the recorded crime data series from 1 April 2007 – 7th May 2018 where a police recorded crime of criminal damage (including: 56A Arson endangering life, 56B Arson not endangering life, 58A Criminal damage to a dwelling and 58B Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling was recorded in the Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon district. The information has been provided by location MO subtype, this information is not checked for accuracy as part of

the data validation process for recorded crime statistics.

Please note that 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.

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.