



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01575

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Domestic Violence and Abuse 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 1

Domestic Violence and Abuse Disclosure Scheme, I am writing to request information from the PSNI under FOI legislation.

Under the 'Right to Ask' scheme - please tell me how many requests for information have been made to date under the Domestic Violence and Abuse Disclosure Scheme.

Answer

134 requests for information have been made to date under the Domestic Violence and Abuse Disclosure Scheme.

Request 2

Please break this down to applications coming from affected individuals and those coming from third parties.

Answer

Person at risk applications: 94
Third Party Applications: 40

Request 3

Of all of these cases, how many requests have been fully dealt with and what stage are the other requests at?

Answer

Completed – 106
Stage 1- 4
Stage 2 - 4
Stage 3 - Awaiting DI decision - 2
Stage 3 – Disclosure pending – 1
17 cases where person at risk resides in a different jurisdiction

Request 4

How many disclosures of a domestic abuse history have been passed on to people as a result?

Answer

Domestic abuse history is not disclosed as this is not within the remit of the scheme.

Request 5

Where cases have been fully processed, how long has this taken on average?

Answer

On average 21 days.

Request 6

And how many cases were considered an “immediate risk” requiring contact from the PSNI immediately?

Answer

One of these cases were considered an “immediate risk”.

Request 7

Also, under the ‘Power to Tell’ – how many times has information been passed on to individuals since the new scheme was launched at the end of March?

Answer

13 Disclosures.

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.