



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-00476

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Drink Spiking

**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**

How many crimes were reported to the police relating to “drink spiking” or “drink lacing” for each year in the past three years?

**Answer**

<b>2015</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>8</b>

Note - Includes offence classification 8N Assault with injury - administering poison with intent to injury or annoy and 88C Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences - administering a substance with intent. Each of the records was read through to identify which substance was administered and how it was administered to ascertain the victim's drink was 'spiked'. Figures within the current financial year (i.e. from 1st April 2017) are provisional and will be subject to change.

**Request 2**

How many arrests were made relating to “drink spiking” or “drink lacing” for each year in the past three years?

**Answer**

<b>2015</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>0</b>

Note - Each of the cases were manually checked to ascertain if there was a custody record in connection with the recorded offence. There may have been an arrest in relation to the recorded offence and not have been linked to the original case where the crime was recorded. These arrests

cannot be identified.

### **Request 3**

How many prosecutions have been successful relating to “drink spiking” or “drink lacing” for each year in the past three years?

### **Answer**

<b>2015</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>0</b>

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.