



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2018-01003

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Drug Offences

**Request and Answer:**

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates.

**Request 1**

How many arrests have your police force made for the offences of supplying controlled drugs or possession with intent to supply controlled drugs in the last year (2017 calendar year) for young persons aged sixteen or under?

**Answer**

During 2017 there were 23 arrests where the person processed through custody was 16 or under and at least one of the offences they were arrested for related to supply or possession with intent to supply controlled drugs class A, B or C. This information was extracted from custody data therefore, those arrested and street bailed or dealt with by other means e.g. community resolution etc. will not be included.

**Request 2**

Please provide if possible the figures for each age group i.e. ten, eleven, twelve etc. and also broken down by gender for each of the two offences, breaking the alleged offences down by Class A and Class B drugs.

**Answer**

Please see tables below showing a breakdown of the age, gender and class of drug involved.

Age	Number
10	0
11	0
12	0
13	1
14	4
15	7
16	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number</b>
Female	4
Male	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

<b>Class</b>	<b>Number</b>
Class A	11
Class B	17
Class C	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

Please note some individuals were arrested for more than one supply offence.

### **Request 3**

For those children who were arrested AND were aged 13 or under please provide specific details on the charge they were arrested on and the exact type and class of drug they were alleged to have been involved with.

### **Answer**

One person aged 13 was arrested for the offences of Being Concerned in Supply of Class A Controlled Drug which was Ecstasy and Being Concerned in Supply of Class B Controlled Drug which was Cannabis.

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.