



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01920

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

Request and Answer:

Request 1

I am requesting the following information under section 1 of The Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is a not a request for any identifying personal details, or other confidential information. During investigations of offences identified in of The Trafficking People for Exploitation Regulations 2013 and under section 71 of The Coroner and Justice Act 2009 conducted between the 31st July 2013 and 31st July 2015 how many:

- a) Potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery were interviewed?
- b) Interviews with potential victims were visually recorded in accordance with The Ministry of Justice "Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures 2011 "?
- c) Of potential victims interviewed, how many were also referred to The National Referral Mechanism?
- d) Potential victims interviewed gave evidence at trial?
- e) Visually recorded interviews with potential victims were played in evidence at trial?

Request 2

During investigations of offences under sections 1 and 2 of The Modern Slavery Act 2015 conducted between 31st July 2015 and 31st July 2017 how many:

- a) Potential victims of human trafficking and modern slavery were interviewed?
- b) Interviews with potential victims were visually recorded in accordance with The Ministry of Justice "Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings Guidance on interviewing victims and witnesses, and guidance on using special measures 2011 "?
- c) Of potential victims interviewed, how many were also referred to The National Referral Mechanism?
- d) Potential victims interviewed gave evidence at trial?
- e) Visually recorded interviews with potential victims were played in evidence at trial?

Answer

Enquiries made in relation to your request failed to locate any relevant records or documents based on the information you have provided. PSNI's Crime Branch has confirmed that the legislation referred to in both questions does not apply in Northern Ireland. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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.