



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-00437

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Knife Crimes

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 offences involving knives or bladed instruments were recorded between 1 January 2018 and 18 February 2018?

Answer

80 offences involving knives or bladed instruments were recorded between 1 January 2018 and 18 February 2018. Offences include: Attempted murder, Robbery, Threats to Kill, Rape & Sexual Assault, Assault with intent to cause serious harm and Assault with injury. Please note a sharp instrument is any object that pierces the skin (or in the case of a threat, is capable of piercing the skin), eg a broken bottle.

Request 2

Please list the names, gender and ages (if known) of any victims of homicide involving knives or bladed instruments during the above period.

Answer

There were no recorded homicide offences involving knives or bladed instruments during the requested period.

Request 3

Please state the overall number of victims, of any severity of injury, of knives or bladed instruments during that period.

Answer

There were 80 victims during the period requested.

Request 4

Please group the victims in question 3 into age ranges (12 and under, 13 to 16, 17 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39 and 40 and over) and gender. Could I clarify this request to ask for the information to be split up into January/February please?

Answer

Please find a table below detailing victims in question 3 into age ranges (12 and under, 13 to 16, 17 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39 and 40 and over) and gender and split up into January/February. Please note the knife and sharp instrument figures are based on weapon details taken from a live operational system and are therefore subject to change.

Age	January 2018	1st-18th February 2018
12 and under	0	1
13-16	2	1
17-19	5	1
20-24	8	9
25-29	4	7
30-34	8	4
35-39	3	4
40 and over	10	5
NOT APPLICABLE/UNKNOWN	4	4
Total	44	36

Age	January 2018	1st-18th February 2018
FEMALE	13	12
MALE	27	20
NOT APPLICABLE/UNKNOWN	4	4
Total	44	36

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.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.