



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-00938

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act

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

For each year 2016, 2017 and up to March 2018 please provide the number of arrests made, per force (listed below) under the Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act.

Forces:

- Antrim and Newtownabbey
- Ards and North Down
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon
- Belfast City
- Causeway Coast and Glens
- Derry City & Strabane
- Fermanagh and Omagh
- Lisburn and Castlereagh
- Mid and East Antrim
- Mid Ulster
- Newry, Mourne and Down

Answer

The term "Force" is not applicable to PSNI and the term should be "District".

Please see the table below provided by PSNI Central Statistics Branch and provides the arrests per District.

Arrest District	1 January -31 December 2016	1 January -31 December 2017	1 January - 31 March 2018
Antrim and Newtownabbey		1	
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	3	1	1
Belfast	7	5	
Derry City and Strabane	3		
Mid Ulster		3	
Newry, Mourne and Down			1
Total	13	10	2

Arrested and processed through police custody. Therefore, those arrested and street bailed or dealt with by other means e.g. community resolution, pnd etc. will not be included in the figures.

Request 2

For each year 2015, 2016 2017 and up to March 2018 please provide data on funding PSNI has allocated to training on human trafficking across each police district in Northern Ireland (each district is cited above). If this is not possible or too broad,

Request 2B

please refer to 2b

2b. Data on funding the PSNI has allocated to staff training on human trafficking in the latest three years on record.

Answer

I contacted the relevant Department - Crime Operations and searches were conducted however these searches failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

Human Trafficking training is provided by officers in Crime Operations Branch to new, serving officers and outside agencies. These sessions are carried out during normal duty time and therefore there is no specific funding.

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.