



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-00641

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Recorded Crime & Outcome Figures 2014-2017

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 (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Request 1

The number of offences broken down by each offence code for each of the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17.

Answer

Please see attached Spreadsheets.

Request 2

The number of outcomes recorded as 'charge/summons' broken down by each offence code for each of the financial years 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17.

Answer

Please see attached Spreadsheets.

An Offence Table is maintained for the purposes of crime recording to allow crimes to be aggregated to published classifications as per the Home Office Counting Rules. Checks are carried out for accuracy at the levels of classification published in the police recorded crime bulletins, however the PSNI do not check that the specific Offence Codes underlying these classifications have been correctly identified. For example in the attached spreadsheets there are four different Offence Codes listed relating to Common Assault, which along with other Offence Codes will be published under the classification '105A Assault without injury' [COMMON ASSAULT, COMMON ASSAULT (INDICTABLE), COMMON ASSAULT ON CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON, COMMON ASSAULT ON MALE CHILD]. PSNI do not check that the appropriate common assault code is used.

Some of the Offence Codes state – DO NOT USE – Duplicate and others possibly should not be in use as legislation has changed. Some of the codes may have had the offence title updated on PSNI NICHE system, to 'do not use' but may still be in use for crime recording to assign the crime into the correct classification.

The information provided was extracted from the recorded crime data series. The recorded crime

data is based on the date the crime is reported to the police and the charge/summons data is based on the date of detection by means of a charge or summons. The data may be subject to revision.

If this request has also been made to all Police Forces in England & Wales, please note that Offence Codes in Northern Ireland are separate to those used in England & Wales and there are some differences in legislation.

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.