

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01327

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Emergency Assistance

Request and Answer:

Request

On how many occasions have Police Officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland crossed the Irish/Northern Irish border to assist in an emergency situation.

Answer

According to a preliminary search of police systems, there are no such recorded incidents within the last two years. Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

There is no legislative framework that allows officers from the Police Service of Northern Ireland to respond to emergencies within the Republic of Ireland. That said, cooperation between PSNI and colleagues in AGS is second to none and we continue to work closely together to conduct investigations and disrupt criminal activity within both jurisdictions.

Officers on both sides of the border have the capacity to speak directly to one another by radio and regularly conduct joint operations in respect of crime and roads policing issues.

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.