



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01818

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Crime Incidents Gender Policy

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

Can you please tell me what is your police force's gender policy on recording crime incidents- in terms of do you record the individual involved in a crime incident by their preferred gender or the gender of their birth?

Answer

PSNI Statistics Branch have advised when recording crime incidents the PSNI use the Home Office Counting Rules but there is no guidance or direction given which states how gender should be recorded.

It is our understanding that gender is recorded according to how the person reporting identifies and self declares themselves to Police, we accept this without question.

Request 2

If the recording of crime incidents is by preferred gender, when was this policy introduced?

Answer

When Statistics Branch is collating data the gender of the person is extracted from the appropriate Niche Records Management System nominal (Niche).

Request 3

When reporting a crime, does your force have the ability to input whether either the victim or perpetrator of a crime was from a transgender or "non-binary" background?

Answer

At the point of initial contact PSNI do not currently record gender identity on the Command and Control system (C&C). Please note this is recorded subsequently when an incident or crime is recorded by the attending officer on Niche. PSNI ICS Branch has confirmed there is a field on Niche to record transgender status.

Request 4

If so, when was this introduced?

Answer

PSNI ICS Branch has confirmed this field on Niche only was introduced on the 6th February 2018.

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.