



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-01795

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Firearms Certificates Granted To Persons Aged 18 and Under

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

I would like to have the number of children that have been issued gun licences in the last three financial years.

I would like a breakdown for each financial year and by age of the child when the licence was granted.

2017/18 2016/17 2015/16

Answer

Please find the response to your request provided in the separate spreadsheet.

Please note the following in conjunction with the data provided:

In Northern Ireland the minimum age at which someone may be granted a firearm certificate is 16. Article 7 of the Firearms (NI) Order 2004 sets out the specific circumstances in which someone under the age of 18 may be granted a certificate.

In N Ireland firearm certificates authorise possession of both firearms and shotguns. There is no separate certificate required for shotguns.

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.