

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2018-02636

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Quantities of Illegal Drugs

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

What quantities of illegal drugs (cannabis/marijuana, cocaine, heroin, LSD, MDMA) were seized by police in Northern Ireland on the following years: 1970 – 2000?

Answer

I can advise that PSNI do not hold all the information for the period requested.

The information held is a combination of manual and electronic and information held manually is contained within the Chief Constables annual reports. These records are only held from 1988 onwards, as the Chief Constables annual reports do not contain any figures regarding drugs seizures prior to 1988.

The information contained within the Chief Constables annual reports is provided as a separate document.

Published drug seizure figures dating back to 2002/03 are available on the Drug Seizure Statistics Archive on the PSNI website which can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/drug-seizure-statistics/drug-seizure-statistics-archive/>

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.