

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-00011

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Crimes Recorded Under Computer Misuse Act

### Request and Answer:

#### Request 1

Number of crimes recorded by your force under the “Computer Misuse Act” for the complete calendar year of 2020 and 2019, broken down by year.

#### Request 2

In each incident, please provide notes e.g. “Hacking attempt, computer locked by malware” and the outcome e.g. offender not identified.

#### Answer

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested as it is already available in the public domain.

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption has been applied:

#### Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

Action Fraud record this information on behalf of PSNI and can be accessed via the following link:  
<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Information in relation to offences are recorded under the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB)  
[Counting Code NFIB50 and NFIB50A.](#)

The [ActionFraud Data Dashboard](#) provides further/future data relative to these matters.

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 Corporate Information Branch, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this email.

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 Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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.psnj.police.uk](http://www.psnj.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.