



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-00192

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Knife Crime in Hospitals 2011 - 2020

Request and Answer:

Request

Data relating to all knife crime incidents which have occurred in hospitals, that this police force has been called to, from the beginning of 2011 to the end of 2020.

Please present this information in excel spreadsheet format and please break this information down by year and type of crime associated with the knife crime incident (e.g. homicide, violence with injury, violence without injury etc.).

Answer

PSNI is providing the answer for this request as a total for the years requested to avoid potential identification of individuals as a result of low numbers for certain years.

Please see attached spreadsheet titled 'Knife Crimes in Hospitals'.

Please note: More than one offence may have been recorded in one incident; the 22 offences recorded were in 15 individual incidents.

Information has been extracted from the knife and sharp instrument data set of selected offences involving knives or sharp instruments by offence type, for time period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2020 where the Modus Operandi (MO) location subtype is 'Hospital'.

A sharp instrument is any object that pierces the skin (or in the case of a threat, is capable of piercing the skin), e.g. a broken bottle. The knife and sharp instrument figures presented here are based on weapon details taken from a live operational system and are therefore subject to change. The 'hospital' location subtype indicates that an offence occurred at or within the vicinity of a hospital. Therefore, the offence may have occurred outside of hospital. This information is based on data extracted from a live system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant. Note that around 8 per cent of records did not contain any MO location information.

operate can be located on the Information Commissioners Office website www.ico.org.uk.

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 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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/

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 their 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.