

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-00240

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Covid Fines And Offenders

### 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

The monthly number of fines handed out for breaches of covid rules since March 2020 up to and including the end of January 31st 2021? (the date of the introduction of the first significant measures)

#### Request 2

The total amount of fines handed out for breaches of covid rules since March 2020 up to and including the end of January 31st 2021 (the date of the introduction of the first significant measures) in £s?

#### Answer to Request 1 and 2

Please find response to above requests in attached spreadsheet

#### Request 3

The most number of times an individual has repeatedly offended by breaking covid rules since March 2020 up to and including the end of January 31st 2021?

#### Answer

“Repeatedly offended by breaking covid rules” has been defined by PSNI as the same individual having been linked to at least one covid-related offence across multiple occurrences.

The highest number of occurrences where the same person has been linked to a covid-related offence is nine.

#### Request 4

The most amount in fines paid by any one person in repeated fines for breaches of covid rules in £ since March 2020 up to and including the end of January 31st 2021

#### Answer

No Information held. Fines are paid to the Northern Ireland Courts And Tribunal Service (NICTS).

## Request 5

The total number of individual repeat offenders of covid rule breaches since March 2020 up to and including the end of January 31st 2021

## Answer

There were 428 individuals who were linked to one or more covid-related offence across more than one occurrence in the period up to 31 January 2021.

The following offences were included in the above as covid-related offences:

SB4714060	Failure to comply with any direction, reasonable instruction, requirement or restriction given to or imposed on you, by a public health officer
SB4714065	Enforcement of Part 1A Orders
SB4714068	Contravention of a requirement under regulation 3, 4, 6 or 7
SB4714069	Contravention of requirement in Regulation 5
SB4714070	Obstruction of any person carrying out a function under the Regulations
SB4714071	Contravention of a direction or failure to comply with a reasonable instruction or a prohibition notice given under Regulation 7
SB4714079	Contravention of a requirement under Regulation 3 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020
SB4714080	Contravention of a requirement under Regulation 4 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020
SB4714081	Contravention of a requirement imposed under Regulation 5 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus International Travel) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020
SB4714083	Intentionally or recklessly provided false or misleading information in response to a requirement in connection with any power under the Health Protection (Coronavirus International Travel) Regulation
SB4714085	Failure to wear a face covering whilst entering or remaining within a relevant place, without reasonable excuse
SB4714086	Encouraging or assisting in the contravention of Health protection regulations (Coronavirus, Restrictions)
SB4714087	Contravention of a requirement under regulation 4, 5, 6 or Schedule 2
SB4714088	Contravention of restriction of movement during emergency period
SB4714089	Obstructing a person carrying out a function under the Regulations
SB4714090	Failure to comply with a prohibition
SB4714091	Face Coverings

### **Please note:**

This information is based on data extracted from a live crime recording 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.

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](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.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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