



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-00419

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Screened Out Crimes

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following:

Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the amount of “screened out” crimes within 24 hours of being reported for the following calendar years: 2019, 2020, 2021 and to date (1st February 2022)

Please can you provide me for each calendar year:

Request 1

The total number of crimes that have been “screened out” for further investigation or ‘filed’ shortly after it was reported to the police.

These are cases which do not qualify for investigation after an initial screening process. This also includes reported crimes closed within 24 hours, without a police officer being assigned to it. Please break this information down into individual offence as per the Count Offence Classification Index.

Request 2

Please can you provide me with the total number of crimes reported to your force for the calendar years 2019, 2020, 2021 and to date (1st February 2022). Please break this information down into individual offence as per the Count Offence Classification Index.

Answers

In response to your Requests, please find attached Excel Spreadsheet entitled ‘00419 Screened Out Crimes Spreadsheet’.

The spreadsheet contains information pertaining to screened out offences, broken down by the number of occurrences marked as no further police action (NFPA) or filed pending further evidence (FPFE) within 24 hours of the report for the requested time period. In addition, we have provided the total number of crimes reported to the PSNI for each calendar year requested.

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.psni.police.uk

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