



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-00651

**Keyword:** Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:** Press Statements

### 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 does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

#### Request 1

Please provide a breakdown of how many press statements in regards to investigations by the PCTF have been issued which included the word 'UVF' since 27 September 2017 to present (14 March 21).

#### Answer

There were 27 News Releases between 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in relation to PCTF investigations including 'UVF'.

- 27 Sept 2017 to 27 Sept 2018: 2 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2018 to 27 Sept 2019: 10 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2019 to 27 Sept 2020: 8 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2020 to 14 March 2021: 7 News Releases

#### Request 2

Please provide a breakdown of how many press statements in regards to investigations by the PCTF have issued which included the word 'UDA' since 27 September 2017 to present (14 March 21).

#### Answer

There were 35 News Releases between 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in relation to PCTF investigations including 'UDA'.

- 27 Sept 2017 to 27 Sept 2018 : 8 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2018 to 27 Sept 2019: 13 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2019 to 27 Sept 2020: 3 News Releases
- 28 Sept 2020 to 14 March 2021: 11 News Releases

**Request 3**

Please provide a breakdown of how many press statements in regards to investigations by the PCTF have issued which included the word 'PIRA' and/or 'IRA since 27 September 2017 to present (14 March 21).

**Answer**

None, the Paramilitary Crime Task Force investigates paramilitarism and not issues relating to Northern Ireland Related Terrorism.

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.