# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

**Request Number:**     F-2021-00907

**Keyword:**     Organisational Information/Governance

**Subject:**     Recording of COVID-19 Breaches

**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**
Generally, during the pandemic how have you recorded within the control room incoming reports relating to COVID -19 breaches?

**Answer**
Upon receipt of a report, the call is assessed, recorded on Control Room Computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system and appropriate response considered per Occurrence reported. Opening and closing codes are appended per incident type.

**Request 2**
How did this recording practice manifest, either directly or indirectly, to data.police.uk reporting?

**Answer**
Enquiries made in relation to this request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to this part of your request.  Accordingly, we have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold this information to which you seek access.

**Request 3**
Did your Force record reports of covid-19 rule infringements as ASB?

**Answer**
Yes in some instances.

**Request 4**
Did your Force use an existing category for Covid-19 rule infringement other than ASB?

**Answer**
Yes – ONFC; CTAC;

**Request 5**
Did you Force record reports of covid-19 rule infringements as another category that is reported to data.police.uk?

**Answer**
Enquiries made in relation to this request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to this part of your request.  Accordingly, we have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold this information to which you seek access.

**Request 6**
If you did use an alternate incident class such as ASB, did you apply any 'tagging' system to capture the Covid infringements within recorded incidents?

**Answer**
We applied qualifiers relating to Covid.

**Request 7**
If you did use a tag what tag labels did you use?

**Answer**
CEP – Covid Enforcement Powers
CER – Covid Exposure Risk
CRO – Covid Related offences

**Request 8**
Did your Force create a new category for recording reports of covid-19 infringements?

**Answer**
No

**Request 9**
If so is this new category reportable to data.police.uk?

**Answer**
Not applicable.


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 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

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