



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-02916

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Illegal Abortion Offences 2015 - 2021

**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.

For each of the calendar years 2015 to 2020, and for 2021 to date, please tell me:

**Request 1**

The number of offences of procuring illegal abortion recorded by the force.

**Answer**

The number of offences relating to the crime classification 'Procuring illegal abortion' that were recorded in each calendar since 2015 is as follows; please note that figures from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 are provisional and subject to change:

	Offences recorded
2015	2
2016	2
2017	2
2018	0
2019	1
2020	0
2021 to 15 <sup>th</sup> December	0

Please note that figures for each financial year 1998/99 to 2020/21 are published on the PSNI website (Table 2.2 of the Police Recorded Crime Annual Trends, <https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/police-recorded-crime-statistics/>, Procuring illegal abortion can be found within Violence against the person offences/Violence without injury)

**Request 2**

The number of reports resulting in a) the suspect being arrested and b) the suspect being charged.

**Answer**

No suspects were arrested or charged.

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 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/](http://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](http://www.psnipolice.uk)

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