



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2020-78

Keyword: Complaints/Discipline

Subject: Use of Firearms by PSNI Officers

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

How many people have been injured by a shot fired by your officers in the past five years (2015-2019)?

Answer

No persons have received a gunshot injury as a result of a PSNI officer discharging their firearm in the past 5 years.

Request 2

How many people have been fatally shot by your officers in the past five years (2015-2019)?

Answer

No persons have been fatally shot by a PSNI officer in the past 5 years.

Request 3

Can you provide me with a breakdown of the ethnicity and gender of both the police officer and the person who was shot (either fatally or non-fatally), and also whether the person shot was armed or unarmed and with what kind of weapon (knife, firearm).

Answer

Not applicable, please refer to the responses to Requests 1 and 2.

However PSNI officers discharged their firearm during 3 incidents in the past 5 years but no persons were stuck with a round in any of these incidents.

Request 4

Have any officers been convicted of manslaughter in the past five years (2015-2019)?

Answer

No officers have been convicted of manslaughter during the past five years (2015-2019)

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.