



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-00223

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Arrests For Firearms Offences

**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**

For the calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and the period 1st January 2021 to 28th January 2021, please could you provide the following information: The number of people aged under 18 who were arrested for firearm offences.

**Answer**

A total of eleven people aged under 18 were arrested and processed through police custody between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 and 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Request 2**

For each arrested person listed in your answer to question 1, could you tell me:

- Their age
- Their sex/gender
- The offence they were arrested for
- Whether the arrested person was charged

**Answer**

- Age – 5 were aged 16, 6 were aged 17
- Sex/Gender – 10 Male, 1 Female
- Offence they were arrested for –

Offence	Number
Attempted Possession Etc Of A prohibited Weapon (Discharge of Electricity Or Noxious Gas/Liquid)	1
Carrying Firearm With Intent To Commit An Indictable Offence	1
Possessing Ammunition in Suspicious Circumstances	1
Possessing Firearm In Suspicious Circumstances	2

Possessing Firearm Other Than Handgun Without Certificate	1
Possessing Handgun Without Certificate	1
Possession Etc Of A prohibited Weapon (Discharge of Electricity Or Noxious Gas/Liquid)	4

●Charges – One person was arrested and processed through police custody and subsequently charged with a firearms offence.

Please note

Figures are subject to change as investigations are completed.

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.