

Keeping People Safe



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-00264

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Cautions Issued for Sexual Offences

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

The number of cautions issued for sexual offences by the force in the following years: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (so far).

Clarification sought: To ensure we provide you with the information you require, can you please specify the offences you require information on.

Clarification Received: Sexual offences: domestic abuse, rape, sexual assault, sexual assault by penetration, child sexual abuse, grooming, extreme pornography, disclosing private sexual images without consent.

Request 2

For each recorded instance of a caution being issued for a sexual offence, I would like the following information: the gender of the offender, age of the offender, details of the particular sexual offence.

Answer

Please see the Excel spreadsheet attached separately to this correspondence.

Enquiries made in relation to your request has identified that the offences stated in your clarification are not specific in terms of listing which offences you would like results for i.e Domestic abuse is not an actual offence. There are many offences which involve domestic abuse e.g. assaults, criminal damages, sexual offences. Based on the wording of your request the following list of offences has been compiled and relevant data provided.

The caution figures for this request are counts of Prosecutorial Decisions of 'Caution', 'Immediate Caution' or 'Youth Engagement – Caution' which have been submitted by the PPS in regards to one of the offences listed below.

AT4211019	ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE OR FACILITATE CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY
IN4211017	CAUSING OR INCITING CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY
SB4211017	CAUSING OR INCITING CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY
SB4211018	CONTROLLING A CHILD PROSTITUTE OR CHILD INVOLVED IN PORNOGRAPHY
SB4211019	ARRANGING OR FACILITATING CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY
SB4211042	CAUSING OR INCITING CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY OF PERSON UNDER 18
SB4211043	CAUSING OR INCITING CHILD PROSTITUTION OR PORNOGRAPHY OF PERSON UNDER 13
SB4210025	POSSESSION OF AN EXTREME PORNOGRAPHIC IMAGE
AT4210025	ATTEMPTED POSSESSION OF AN EXTREME PORNOGRAPHIC IMAGE
AT4210013	ATTEMPTING TO MEET A CHILD FOLLOWING SEXUAL GROOMING
AT4210038	ATTEMPTING TO MEET A CHILD FOLLOWING SEXUAL GROOMING
SB4210013	MEETING A CHILD FOLLOWING SEXUAL GROOMING (OFFENCES UP TO 2 FEB 2009)
SB4210022	MEETING A CHILD FOLLOWING SEXUAL GROOMING (UP TO 23 JULY 2015)
SB4210038	MEETING A CHILD FOLLOWING SEXUAL GROOMING (FROM 24 JULY 2015)
SB4213016	DISCLOSING PRIVATE SEXUAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND FILM WITH INTENT TO CAUSE DISTRESS

Please note:

Information relating to prosecutorial decisions is provided by the Public Prosecution Service to PSNI for information purposes only and may not be wholly accurate. For accurate figures the relevant information should be sought from PPS directly.

This information is based on data extracted from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change. It is dependent on the information having been input into the system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

It should also be noted the Niche Technical team is not involved in checking reliability and validity of any data input onto Niche and cannot protect the data against any input errors which may have influenced these figures.

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.psnj.police.uk

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