

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2021-00519

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Number of assaults - Duncairn ward

### 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

I am re-submitting my request from 7/12/2020 asking for the number of assaults on teenagers/young men in the Duncairn ward of North Belfast.

#### Answer

From December 2015 to (and including) December 2020 as requested in the 7/12/2020 request, there have been a total number of 520 assault offences where the victim was male and aged under 25, in the Duncairn Ward.

Please Note: These Assault offences include: Assault with intent to cause serious harm, Assault with injury, and Assault without injury. However Changes can be expected to figures from 1st April 2020 as records are subject to ongoing validation and quality assurance processes until publication in May 2021; annual revisions to previously published financial year figures may also be applied at this time.

#### Request 2

How many of these assaults resulted in prosecution? I'm referring to those from July 2015 through to present day.

#### Answer

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

PSNI hold a return of 70 prosecutions from 2015 to present day however this figure has been retrieved based on the number of these which have one or more linked PPS prosecutorial decisions to prosecute in relation to an assault offence as at 29/03/21.

It should be noted that this information is based on data extracted from a live crime recording system and may be subject to change. It is also dependent on the information having been input into the

system in such a way as to identify those records that are relevant.

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

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