



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2020-01172

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Sexual Offences Committed During Lockdown

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.

During the period of lockdown that being between the 23rd March and 15th June 2020(inclusive).

Request

How many sexual offences were recorded by your force that happened between the above dates? And that were committed between those dates.

Please give the name of offence e.g. rape etc.

Answer

Please see table below:-

Sexual offences reported to police that occurred from 23 March 2020-15 June 2020

Offence type	Number
Rape	63
Sexual assault	96
Sexual activity	89
Sexual grooming	29
Exposure and voyeurism	50
Other sexual offences ¹	6

¹ Other sexual offences include Incest or familial sexual offences and abuse of position of trust of a sexual nature offences

Please note: 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.

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.