



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-01209

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Tasers

**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 would like to know please: The number of times a Conducted Energy Device (eg Taser) was deployed by officers between January 1 and June 24, 2020, including the number of times the weapons were discharged. Please provide the ethnicity of those against whom the CEDs were deployed.

**Answer**

Table 1 shows the number of persons on whom a conductive energy device was used during the period 1 January 2020 and 24 June 2020, by ethnicity.

**Table 1** <sup>(1,2,3)</sup>

	White	Irish Traveller	Black African	Indian	Other Ethnic Group	Other Asian	Unknown	Total
CED Drawn	42	0	1	0	0	0	1	<b>44</b>
CED Aimed	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>14</b>
CED Red Dot	103	2	0	0	0	1	0	<b>106</b>
CED Arc Drive	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
CED Fired	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>12</b>
<b>Total 2020 (to 24 June)</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>178</b>

**Request 2**

The number of times a Conducted Energy Device (eg Taser) was deployed by officers between January 1 and December 31, 2019, including the number of times the weapons were discharged. Please provide the ethnicity of those against whom the CEDs were deployed.

**Answer**

Table 2 shows the number of persons on whom a conductive energy device was used during

1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019, by ethnicity.

**Table 2**<sup>(1,2)</sup>

	White	Irish Traveller	Black African	Indian	Other Ethnic Group	Other Asian	Unknown	Total
CED Drawn	105	5	2	0	0	0	1	<b>113</b>
CED Aimed	32	1	0	1	0	0	0	<b>34</b>
CED Red Dot	217	4	1	0	1	0	0	<b>223</b>
CED Arc Drive	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>12</b>
CED Fired	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>28</b>
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>410</b>

**Please Note:**

- 1) The figures in Tables 1 and 2 may not be a unique count of the number of persons on whom force was used, as force may be used by more than one officer on the same member of the public.
- 2) Ethnicity may be officer perceived.
- 3) Figures for 2020 are provisional and subject to change.

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.