

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-01564

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Murder-Suicide Incidents

### 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 request the following information on murder-suicide. For the purposes of this request, I am defining murder-suicide as 'murder followed by the suicide of the perpetrator(s) within one week'. I would like to request the following information for the years 1st January 2015 to 31st December 2018 inclusive: In total (for all ages), how many murder-suicide incidents were recorded in your force between 1st January 2015 and 31st December 2018? Please provide a breakdown by year (e.g. 10 in 2015, 20 in 2016, 30 in 2015, total = 60)

#### Answer

One murder in 2017 (all ages) identified as murder-suicide.

#### Request 2

How many of these murder-suicides (number not percentage please) involved a victim who was aged 60 or over? Please provide a breakdown by year (e.g. 10 in 2015, 20 in 2016, 30 in 2015, total = 60)

#### Answer

No murder-suicides were identified between 2015 and 2018 where the victim was 60 or over.

#### Request 3

How many murders involving a victim aged 60 or over were recorded during the same period (number not % please) Please provide a breakdown by year (e.g. 10 in 2015, 20 in 2016, 30 in 2015, total = 60). Please note - this question is designed to allow me to ascertain how many murders of older people are murder-suicide cases.

#### Answer

There were a total of 11 murders between 2015 and 2018 where the victim was aged 60 or over; 5 in 2015, 3 in 2016, 2 in 2017 and 1 in 2018.

#### Request 4

For each of the recorded murder-suicide cases involving an older victim (60 or over) (as per question

2, above), please provide the victim, offender and crime details on an individual case basis as per the attached table - if possible please complete a table for each recorded offence or provide the same information in a different format if preferred but please provide this on an individual basis - please do not aggregate the information).

**Answer**

Not Applicable.

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.