



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-01600

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Sexual Misconduct Cases

### 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 number of sexual misconduct cases involving university students and staff since 2017, including the outcomes of cases. This can be listed in the following way to avoid sharing personal data: X number of cases were dismissed, X number led to convictions, etc.

HO codes below, if needed:

1713, Sexual Crime, Assault On Male By Penetration  
1715, Sexual Crime, Assault On Male Not By Penetration  
1908, Sexual Crime, Rape Of A Female Aged 16 Or Over  
1910, Sexual Crime, Rape Of A Male Aged 16 Or Over  
1912, Sexual Crime, Attempted Rape Of A Female Aged 16 Or Over  
1914, Sexual Crime, Attempted Rape of A Male Aged 16 Or Over,  
2003, Sexual Crime, Assault on A Female By Penetration  
2005, Sexual Crime, Sexual Assault On A Female  
8806, Sexual Crime, Commit Offence With Intent To Facilitate A Sexual Offence  
8807, Sexual Crime, Trespass With Intent To Commit A Sexual Offence  
8809, Sexual Crime, Exposure  
865, Violence Against The Person, Stalking Involving Fear of Violence  
866, Violence Against The Person, Stalking Involving Causing Serious Distress Or Alarm To The Victim  
12512, Violence Against The Person, "Harassment, Alarm Or Distress"

If the release of any of this information is prohibited on the grounds of breach of confidence, I ask that you supply me with copies of the confidentiality agreement and remind you that information should not be treated as confidential if such an agreement has not been signed.

If there is no way of searching for the occupation of university student/staff member then i am happy for you to search according to location e.g. university campus

## Answer

The response provided below is based on your clarification that you are 'content to receive information based on the location of university', as PSNI do not hold the occupation of the victim at the time of the recorded offence.

There was one sexual assault case recorded from 1 January 2017 – 31 August 2020 where the Modus Operandi (MO) location sub type was 'university' and the outcome of the recorded offence was a charge.

Please note the following in conjunction with the response:

- The information provided has been extracted from the police recorded crime data series where a 'specified sexual offence' was recorded where the MO location subtype was 'university'. Therefore there may be additional records that involve university staff/students that cannot be identified if the MO location was not recorded as university and records where the MO location was university may not involve students or staff.
- Stalking is not a specific offence in Northern Ireland, it is within the remit of Harassment offences and as the request is about sexual misconduct the harassment offences identified are not relevant to this request.
- The Home Office codes provided are not held on PSNI systems.
- The following offences classifications were included in the search criteria:
  - 19A-19H Rape
  - 17A/B Sexual assault on a male
  - 20A/B Sexual assault on a female
  - 88E Exposure and voyeurism

This information is based on data extracted from a live 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.

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.

