



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-01839

Keyword: Policing Themes, Operations and Investigations Investigations and Operations

Subject: Critical Incidents

Request and Answer:

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we 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

I would like to make a request under freedom of information legislation.

Request 1

How many times has the PSNI declared a critical incident in each of the last 5 years (2017-2022)?

Critical incident is defined as ‘Any incident, where the effectiveness of the police response is likely to have a significant impact on the confidence of the victim, their family and / or the community’.

Please provide the number per year and reason for each occasion.

Answer

The PSNI have declared 26 critical incidents in the last five years (2017-2022).

Please see the information provided below outlining the number declared for each of those years and reason for each. This information is based on data extracted from a live system, and may be subject to change.

Year	No. of Critical Incidents	Reason for each declared meeting Critical Incident Definition
2017	1	Paramilitary style attacks and shootings
2018	8	Paramilitary style attacks and shootings
		Paedophile hunters
		Multiple Murder/Arson

		Fatal RTC
		Police pursuit of stolen vehicle resulting in an RTC
		Death in custody
		Double Homicide
		Increasing tensions in Ballymena
2019	7	Bomb- L/Derry Courthouse
		Adult Safeguarding Investigation at Muckamore Abbey Hospital
		Adult Safeguarding at Dunmurry Manor Care Home
		Failure to disclose documents
		Fatal Incident at Greenvale Hotel, Cookstown
		ATM Thefts
		Murder
		Kidnapping and brutal assault
2020	1	Pensions P60 Incident
2021	3	Concern for Safety for MOP on the railway bridge at the Eastway, Craigavon
		Fatal road traffic collision
		Misconduct in Public Office
2022	6	Failing to process Road Safety Camera detections before they went statute barred and had to be cancelled
		Firearms Training Licensing (College of Policing)
		Death of serving member
		Issues around Firearms and Explosives Branch
		BBC Spotlight Programme
		Police Investigation

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 remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, 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', or use the ICO self-service portal available at www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/officialinformation-concerns-report/official-information-concern/

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 their discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psn.police.uk

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