



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2020-01847

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Sex Offenders - Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA

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 and the decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Clarification sought:

Enquiries have identified that the term "and/or charged with offences" highlighted in red is too broad and ambiguous. Would you be content to remove the highlighted text in this part of Request 4.

Clarification received:

I am happy with the text highlighted below (i.e. and/or charged with offences) to be removed and the broader scope of the question addressed.

Further clarification sought:

Your request seeks information in relation to Larne and Larne area. Clarification on what administrative geographic areas are required to represent Larne and Larne area is required to accurately process your request. There is a local policing team of Larne which is made up of the following District Electoral Areas (DEA) and wards: Larne Lough DEA (wards Ballycarry & Glynn, Curran & Inver, Islandmagee, Kilwaughter and Whitehead South) - Carrick Castle DEA (Boneybefore, Castle, Kilroot, Love Lane and Victoria) - Knockagh DEA (Burleigh Hill, Gortalee, Greenisland, Sunnylands and Woodburn) - Coast Road DEA (Cairncastle, Carnlough & Glenarm, Craigyhill, Gardenmore and The Maidens). Can you please confirm which of the above should be included in any response.

Further clarification received:

Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA.

Request 1

Please provide numbers to and any additional information of the following For Larne and Larne area . How many people are on the sex offenders register that reside in Larne and Larne area.

Answer

The following information is provided in compliance with your previous clarifications.

There are 17 Registered Sex Offenders with current registered addresses in the Larne Lough DEA

and Coast Road DEA areas.

Request 2

How many are male/female with reference to item 1.

Answer

All 17 Registered Sex Offenders with current registered addresses in the Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA areas are male.

Request 3

How many people that have committed sexual offences outside of above area now live within it.

Answer

Of the 17 Registered Sex Offenders with current registered addresses in the Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA areas, 12 committed sexual offences outside the Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA areas.

Request 4

Of the people on the sex offenders register, how many specifically committed offences against minors/children (I know there are a large array of offences within this compounded figures will suffice).

Answer

Of the 17 Registered Sex Offenders with current registered addresses in the Larne Lough DEA and Coast Road DEA areas, 14 committed sexual offences against minors/children.

Request 5

How many reports or sexual offences against minors/children have been made in the past 3 years for the above area.

Answer

Please see the table below detailing sexual offences recorded by police where the location of the offence was Larne Lough DEA or Coast Road DEA and where the victim was aged under 18 at the time the offence was committed for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Sexual offences victim under 18	39	45	45

Request 6

How many convictions have been made with regards answer to item 5.

Answer

The data used to answer this part of the request does not directly relate to the response for Request 5. This is because the offence used to classify an occurrence on the Niche database (on which the previous question was based upon) may not be the offence that a person is charged / convicted with. Instead, a separate query was conducted to specifically search for convictions of sexual offences against minors using the criteria specified.

There have been 7 convictions relating to sexual offences against minors in the last 3 years for the Larne Lough and Coast Road District Electoral Areas.

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.psnipolice.uk

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