



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2021-02060

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Hate Crime Statistics 2019-2021

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 some information to which your request relates and this is being provided to you. We further consider some of the information you seek in the request is exempt by virtue of Section 21 of FOIA and have detailed our rationale as to why this exemption applies. We have also provided you with links to guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office which we have followed in responding to your request.

Request 1

How many hate crimes did your police force record, as having been committed against people who identify as transgender?

Please respond for the following financial years:

- a) Starting in April 2019 and finishing at the end of March 2020
- b) Starting in April 2020 and finishing at the end of March 2021

Request 3

How many hate crimes did your police force record, as having been committed based on sexual orientation?

Please respond for the following financial years:

- a) Starting in April 2019 and finishing at the end of March 2020
- b) Starting in April 2020 and finishing at the end of March 2021

Answer Request 1 and 3

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption/s, as well as the factors the Department considered when deciding where the public interest lies, are listed below:

Section 21 – Information Reasonably accessible by Other Means

The information you request is publically available on the PSNI website and for convenience I have provided the relevant link below:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/hate-motivation-statistics/2020-21/q4/hate-motivations-bulletin-mar-21.pdf>

Please note: The section you require can be found in Table 1 of our Incidents and Crimes with a Hate Motivation Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland Update to 31 March 2021 bulletin.

The full text of exemptions can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk and further guidance on how they operate can be located on the Information Commissioners Office website www.ico.org.uk.

Request 2

Of these crimes, how many resulted in a prosecution?

Please respond for the following financial years:

- a) Starting in April 2019 and finishing at the end of March 2020
- b) Starting in April 2020 and finishing at the end of March 2021

Request 4

Of these crimes, how many resulted in a prosecution?

Please respond for the following financial years:

- a) Starting in April 2019 and finishing at the end of March 2020
- b) Starting in April 2020 and finishing at the end of March 2021

Answer Request 2 and 4

	Request 2	Request 4
2019-2020	1	9
2020-2021	2	14

Please note: Information relating to convictions and prosecutions is provided by NI Courts Service and the Public Prosecution Service to PSNI for information purposes only and may not be wholly accurate.

For accurate figures the relevant information should be sought from either NI Courts or Public Prosecution Service directly.

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.psni.police.uk

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