

Keeping People Safe



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2020-02460

**Keyword:** Crime

**Subject:** Sexual Assaults on NI Railways

### 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.

#### Request 1

Firstly, how many cases of sexual assault and rape on NI Railways have been reported to the PSNI in the last 5 years including 2020 with data from each year split to help differentiate any difference?

#### Request 2

How many of these cases were committed on board a train, also split by the last 5 years?

#### Request 3

How many cases were committed at a station with breakdowns by station, also differentiated by the last 5 years?

#### Request 4

A breakdown of victims of assaults on the railway by gender and age, to get the most up to date information over the last 5 years?

Please provide the information in the form of a data table or any way that would be most fitting for the data.

### Answer

Please see attached Excel spreadsheet attached separately to this correspondence.

### *Please note:*

***Data is based on all recorded rape and sexual assault offences where the location was either 'Train' or 'Railway Station', during the period 2016 to 2020.***

***Due to the small numbers involved and the associated risk of disclosure, a yearly breakdown has only been provided for the overall figure in Request 1. Similarly for Request 4, information is disaggregated for age and gender and provided in age bands rather than individual ages.***

**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.