



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-02970

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Domestic Incidents and Crime Statistics (2020-2021)

Request and Answer:

I am currently wishing to source data in relation to crimes in NI, in particular:

Request 1

Number of domestic abuse incidents.

Request 2

Number of domestic abuse crimes.

Can you please provide the above data by Section 75 equalities (Gender, Age, Race, Religious denomination, disability, sexual orientation, dependants, marital status, and political belief).

Whilst I appreciate that you will not necessarily have data on all the protected characteristics a breakdown of what you do would be appreciated.

Clarification to Requester

Could you please provide a specific timeframe for the information requested?

Clarification from Requester

I notice on the website that the domestic violence is published October 2020 – September 2021 so this date is fine.

Answer

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 the applicant with a notice which:

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

The following exemption has been applied:

Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

PSNI does not hold the full range of data covering section 75 characteristics for victims of domestic

abuse offences, or any person information on incidents.

Information that the PSNI do hold is available in the spreadsheet accompanying the latest Annual Trends in Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes in Northern Ireland 2004/5 – 2020/21 bulletin:

- Table 3.2 – Age from 2004/05
- Table 3.3 – Gender from 2004/05
- Table 3.8 – Ethnicity from 2007/08
- Table 4.5 – Victim/Offender relationship for detected domestic abuse offences (please see the tab 'Background – Tables 4.1 – 4.5' for explanation and guidance) from 2010/11

This document can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.psni.police.uk/globalassets/inside-the-psni/our-statistics/domestic-abuse-statistics/2020-21/domestic-abuse-incidents-and-crimes-in-northern-ireland-2004-05-to-2020-21.xlsx>

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 email.

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.psni.police.uk

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