



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2021-03088

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Schedule 7 Stops

Request and Answer:

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

Clarification Sought

Can you advise if the third date is correct i.e. 1 August 2020 to 7 August 2021 or should it be 1 August 2021 to 7 August 2021?

Clarification Received

Apologies, it should be the latter - 1 August 2021 to 7 August 2021

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following, revised information:

Request

For the following periods, please could you provide me with the percentage breakdown of people stopped under Schedule 7 by religion?

To be clear, I am not asking for numbers of stops, nor for this to be broken down by individual ports.

The periods of time I am interested in are: 1 August 2019 to 7 August 2019, 1 August 2020 to 7 August 2020, 1 August 2020 to 7 August 2021

Please provide the information in an Excel spreadsheet with the time periods as columns and religious sub-types as rows.

Answer

None.

Note

Officers have the power to ask any question which they consider could assist in making a determination of whether a person appears to be someone who is concerned in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism and or for facilitating religious observance. There is no policy or guidance requiring officers to ask about religion (i.e. it is not mandatory). And as such,

religious breakdown of persons stopped is not recorded.

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.psnipolice.uk

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