



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2022-02787

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

Subject: Custody Centre Conditions

Request and Answer:

Request

1. Please can i ask whether or not any of your detainees in your custody centre have ever been given a room to speak to their solicitor that either has a microphone / intercom unit in? and if so what were the conditions?

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 (PSNI) does not hold information in relation to your requests. Enquiries made in relation to your request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided.

We can advise, unless authorisation has been given to allow a delay in notifying arrest or allowing access to legal advice, all detainees must be informed that they may at any time consult and communicate privately with a solicitor, whether in person, in writing or by telephone. Private consultations take place in solicitor consultation rooms. We can confirm at times consultations have taken place in cells on occasions when detainees refuse to leave the cell or at the request of the solicitors in the interview rooms where CCTV is installed.

The PSNI accommodate on average over 26000 detentions per year and do not hold the details of conditions regarding each solicitor consultation.

Accordingly, I have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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 Corporate Information Manager, Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.police.uk.

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain unhappy about how your request has been handled you have the right to apply in writing to the Information Commissioner, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, at 'Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. There are a number of other platforms you can use to contact the ICO and these can be found on the ICO's website at the following link: [Make a complaint | ICO \(https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/\)](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/).

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.psnj.police.uk

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