



# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2022-02866

**Keyword:** Crime/Incident Statistics Offences against a person

**Subject:** Violent Crime targeting the Staff of Dental Practices

**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. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

**Request**

Under the Freedom of Information Act I am requesting data held by Police Service of Northern Ireland relating to cases of violent crime recorded targeting the staff of dental practices in your jurisdiction. I am requesting data for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 on the number of the following incidents reported by staff in dental practices:

- Assault with injury;
- Assault without injury;
- Assault (other forms);
- Stalking and harassment;
- Other incidents of violence against the person.

**Answer**

The following table is based on all recorded violence against the person offences where the location was described as 'Dental Practice' and the victim was a member of staff, during the financial years 2017/18 - 2021/22.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Assault with Injury	-	-	-	-	-
Assault without Injury	-	1	1	2	2
Stalking and Harassment	1	-	-	-	3
Other violence against the person offences	-	-	-	-	-

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 Corporate Information Manager, Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.police.uk](mailto: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.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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