

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2023-00477

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

Subject: Brothels

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 1

Under the FOI act please could I request the incident summary / current summary / modus operandi summary (or whatever your force calls the equivalent) of the 10 most recent offences of keeping a brothel, and the outcome of each. Please redact any identifying personal or identifying information.

By the offence of 'keeping a brothel' I mean to include any of the following offences (and any other similar ones I may have missed):

Conspire To Manage / Assist In Management Of A Brothel

Keep / Manage A Brothel Used For Prostitution

Keep A Brothel

Manage / Assist In Management Of A Heterosexual Brothel

Permit Use Of Premises As A Brothel

Please let me know if there's any way I can make my request easier to answer.

Answer

Please see the table below detailing the information requested.

Year of Offence	Offence	МО	Result
2022	Brothel Keeping, Controlling Prostitution	Brothel located by police carrying out other duties, case still ongoing - no further details at this stage	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending
2022	Brothel Keeping	Police identified location, case ongoing	Pending

2019	Brothel Keeping	Report from member of public, 2 females located in property - insufficient evidence to pursue prosecution	No further action
2018	Brothel Keeping	Warrant search of property during day of action, 2 x suspects reported for Prosecution - case withdrawn by PPS 30/01/23	Case withdrawn
2017	Brothel Keeping	Report from member of public, 2 females located in the property - reported to PPS	Not Guilty

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/).

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.