



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-00794

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Other and Multiple Crime/Incident types

Subject: Time Barred Reports to Crown Office

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

Please can you provide the total amount of charges reported to the Crown Office in each of the past five years - 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Clarification from requester:

Apologies for any confusion, I incorrectly referenced the 'Crown Office' when I'm referring to The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).

Request 2

Please can you provide the total amount of charges reported to the Crown Office that were 'Time Barred' as reported out with the statutory time limit specified by law in each of the past five years - 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Answer

Please note that PSNI forward their files to the Public Prosecution Service (PPS). The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is applicable to England not to Northern Ireland.

The following is the total number of files PSNI have forwarded to PPS for the respective years along with how many of them were statute barred.

2017/18 – 40893 files, 86 statute barred files.

2018/19 – 41791 files, 79 statute barred files.

2019/20 – 41764 files, 65 statute barred files.

2020/21 – 39835 files, 67 statute barred files.

2021/22 – 43907 files, 78 statute barred files.

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.psni.police.uk

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