



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-00930

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

Subject: Crime Statistics

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 (PSNI) does hold some information to which your request relates and this is being provided to you. We consider the information you seek in request number 1 is exempt by virtue of Section 21 of FOIA and have detailed our rationale as to why this exemption applies. We have also provided you with links to guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office which we have followed in responding to your request.

Request 1

I am wondering if you can release crime statistics for the previous 5 years.

Answer 1

Your request for information has now been considered and PSNI are not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Police Service of Northern Ireland, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states the fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption has been applied:

Section 21 - Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

Police recorded crime statistics including outcomes of the crimes (Charge/Summons etc.) is published monthly on the PSNI website.

The information requested is publically available on the PSNI website however for convenience I have provided a link to the website below.

<https://www.psni.police.uk/inside-psni/Statistics/>

Request 2

In particular, I am wanting to discover the amounts of crimes committed by foreign nationals in the previous 5 years, to try and discover potential trends, or lack of.

Answer 2

A total of 43,209 offences have been committed by a 'Foreign National' during the time frame 1 January 2019 – 28 February 2023.

Please Note; *This figure includes offences that have been reported or arrested in the last 5 years that are linked to a Foreign National.*

In this extract a foreign national is anyone whose nationality is not one of the following, England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland.

The offence date is the date the offence was committed however the extract returns the offences based on when they were created in the system.

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.