



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-01232

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Hate Crime and Equality

Subject: Law Commission Report on Hate Crime

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

Do you keep a record of crimes aggravated by hostility towards sex or gender that are reported to (or discovered by) your force?

NB. Please note the reference to gender concerns cisgender identity, as crimes aggravated by hostility towards transgender identity are already captured under s.66(1) Sentencing Act 2020. References to gender in the below questions should also be read as references to cisgender identity.

Answer

No.

Request 2

If not:

- a. Have you ever done?
- b. Are there plans to do so in future?

Answer

- a. PSNI has never recorded hate crimes motivated by hostility towards gender as outlined in this request.
- b. The PSNI are working with the Department of Justice who are reviewing the recommendations in the review of hate crime legislation conducted by Judge Marrinan. Gender forms a part of this review.

Request 3

Has the Law Commission's 2021 report affected whether you collect this information? If so, how?

Answer

Not at this time. The PSNI are working with the Department of Justice who are reviewing the recommendations in the review of hate crime legislation conducted by Judge Marrinan. Gender forms

a part of this review.

Request 4

If Yes to question 1, please state:

- a. The number of crimes and incidents that were logged on your system as aggravated by hostility towards sex or gender in 2020, 2021 and 2022 (please give two separate figures for each year- crimes and incidents)
- b. For those recorded as crimes, please give the nature of these offences (broken down by year and into crime categories, as defined by your force)
- c. Please also give the number of crimes logged that led to a:
 - (i) Caution
 - (ii) Criminal prosecution
 - (iii) Conviction

(Please give separate figures for each year)

Answer

Not applicable.

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.