



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-01333

Keyword: Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

Subject: Wildlife Crimes

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

I am contacting you regarding wildlife crimes. It has been reported that there has been over 22,000 wildlife crimes recorded in the past 5 years.

I would appreciate if you could confirm this number and provide how many wildlife crimes have taken place in each constituency in Northern Ireland in each of the last 5 years.

Answer

Please see the separate attached excel spreadsheet detailing the information requested.

The spreadsheet has two tabs – one with **all** wildlife closing codes (Animals, Hist – Animals, Pets/Domesticated Animals & Wildlife) and one specifically for the wildlife closing code only. District information is not always recorded accurately for incidents and you'll note there is a large proportion of incidents which do not have a district recorded particularly for 2018, 2019 & 2020

“Please also note the data is operational and does not represent official crime statistics. All figures are therefore subject to change.”

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.psnj.police.uk

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