



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2023-01327

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

Subject: Dog Attacks

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 number of reported dog attacks in your force area in 2022?

Answer

No records held at all for 2022.

Request 2

Please can you provide the number of reported dog attacks in your force area for every year since 2010?

Answer

Year	Total
2013	92
2014	519
2015	463
2016	574
2017	565
2018	512
2019 – only have records up to 31/5/2019	173
2020 – only have records up to 30/6/2020	35
2021	466
2022	No records held

Please note

Due to a change in software for recording these stats in 2019, we believe these stats to be incomplete.

These stats are not a recordable offence under the Home Office.

The stats are held locally and are subject to change.

Request 3

Could you provide me the number of dogs a) seized b) destroyed by your force under the 1991 Dangerous Dogs Act in 2022?

Answer

The equivalent law for NI would fall under the remit of the council dog warden and we do not hold this.

Request 4

Please can you provide me with the number of dogs a) seized and b) destroyed for every year since 2010?

Answer

The equivalent law for NI would be under the remit of the council dog warden and we do not hold this.

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.