



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** FOI-2023-01429

**Keyword:** Crime/Incident Statistics Sexual Offences

**Subject:** Non-Contact Sexual Offences

### 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

The total number of non-contact sexual offences reported to your force in 2021 and 2022.

### Request 2

Of those: The number of cases closed before an initial investigation.

### Request 3

Of those: The number of cases closed after an initial investigation.

### Clarification from requester:

1. I have been sent various clarification requests from other forces about the specific offence. Please provide exposure and voyeurism offences.
2. Also, if you cannot provide cases closed before and after initial investigation, please instead provide outcomes for each offence e.g. charged.

### Answer 1-3

Please see below the table of number of exposure and voyeurism offences recorded by PSNI in years: 2021 and 2022 with the outcome assigned.

Please note: While every crime should eventually be assigned an outcome, this may take some time due to ongoing investigations. Therefore the figures in the tables below will be subject to revision, as investigations are completed and as outcomes continue to be assigned.

A description of each outcome method is available in Appendix 2 of the bulletin 'Outcomes of Crimes Recorded by the Police in Northern Ireland 2015/16 to 2021/22 (published 30 November 2022), which can be found through the web link below.

<https://www.psni.police.uk/about-us/our-publications-and-reports/official-statistics/police-recorded-crime-statistics>

<b>Offence with outcome</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Exposure</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>234</b>
<i>Outcome assigned:</i>		
Charge/summons	59	61
Out of court (formal)	1	4
Out of court (informal)	15	15
Evidential difficulties	39	63
Prosecution prevented or not in the public interest	2	0
Evidential difficulties	29	16
Other agencies	5	6
Investigation complete – no suspect identified	45	42
<i>Outcome not yet assigned</i>	16	27
<b>Voyeurism</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>73</b>
<i>Outcome assigned:</i>		
Charge/summons	9	12
Out of court (formal)	0	2
Evidential difficulties	24	30
Other agencies	0	1
Investigation complete – no suspect identified	5	9
<i>Outcome not yet assigned</i>	11	19

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](mailto: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.psnipolice.uk](http://www.psnipolice.uk)

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