



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2023-01450

**Keyword:** Crime/Incident Statistics Arrests/Detainees/Outcomes

**Subject:** Cases causing Intentional Harassment, Alarm or Distress

### Request and Answer:

#### Request 1

Please provide the number of cases of intentional harassment, alarm or distress (Public Order Act 1986 Sec. 4A) reported to your force between January 1st and December 31st 2022. Your force may record this under classification code 125/09. If held, please outline how many cases of causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress include a sexual element (for example, have been recorded alongside another crime type as a sexual offence, or specifies 'sexual harassment').

#### Request 2

Please provide the above totals broken down by: age of victim (just 'child' or 'adult' is fine, but more detail is welcome if within the cost limit) and crime outcome.

Note: Please include reported crime, not \*just\* 'recorded' crime in the above totals. Where reports have not progressed to a recorded crime, please flag this as a crime outcome (for example, 'reported, not recorded').

#### 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 not hold information in relation to your requests. Enquiries made in relation to your request failed to locate any records or documents relevant to your request based on the information you have provided.

PSNI can advise the Public Order Act 1986 Sec.4A legislation does not extend to Northern Ireland.

Accordingly, we have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

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