



**News Release
20 June 2013**

PPS PUBLISHES QUARTERLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN

The Public Prosecution Service (PPS) today published its [Quarterly Statistical Bulletin](#), the fourth in a series of statistical publications. It provides information for the full 2012/13 financial year (i.e. 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013) and includes comparisons for the equivalent period in 2011/12.

The bulletin presents key statistics on the activity of the PPS, including caseloads and prosecutorial decisions. It also contains detailed notes which provide an explanation of the relevant PPS processes and procedures.

Key findings

During the financial year:

- The PPS received 49,628 files during this financial year. This was a decrease of 6.8% on 2011/12 (53,271). In particular, the number of indictable files received fell by 14.1%.
- Of the total files received, 1,441 were submitted by government departments and agencies, the majority of which were from the Department for Social Development (42%) or the Driver and Vehicle Agency (37%).
- 61,955 prosecutorial decisions were issued by the PPS. The Test for Prosecution was met in the majority of cases; almost three-quarters (72%) were issued with a decision for prosecution (37,475) or for diversion from the courts (7,029). This was in line with 2011/12 (71%).
- There were 2,295 decisions for prosecution on indictment (i.e. for prosecution of offences in the Crown Court), an increase of 6.9% on 2011/12. There was a decrease in summary prosecution decisions (-3.0%) and diversionary decisions (-0.8%) over the same period.

- Of the 17,451 decisions for no prosecution, the vast majority (95%) did not pass the evidential test. The remaining 5% did not pass the public interest test.
- The average number of calendar days required for issue of a decision varied by type. Indictable prosecution decisions were issued in an average of 212 days, summary prosecution decisions in 29 days, youth conferences in 25 days, restorative cautions in 19 days and informed warnings in 16 days. Average days to issue included time taken by the police to respond to decision information requests and for case preparation.

Notes to Editors

This summary should be read in conjunction with the explanatory notes provided (see pages 15 -17 of the Statistical Bulletin).

These are 'Official Statistics' as defined in Section 6 of the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007. Statisticians from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency are seconded to the PPS and are responsible for ensuring that the statistics produced comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. All statistics for the current financial year are provisional and may be subject to change.

The bulletin may be viewed or downloaded at www.ppsni.gov.uk. Any member of the public may comment on the report by contacting PPS as follows:

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