

[REDACTED]

FOI 439/24-25

27 January 2025

[REDACTED]

I refer to your email dated 30 December 2024 in which you requested information. Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Freedom of Information Act creates rights of access for any person making a request for information to a public authority. The rights of access are twofold. First, to be informed by the public authority if it holds information of the description specified in the request, and if that is the case, secondly, to be provided with that information. These rights are subject to important limitations, which are designed to achieve a proper balance between the right to know and considerations of law and policy in the broader public interest.

You had asked the following:

“1. In the financial year 23-24:

- a) How many men were sent a letter stating that their case would not proceed to court, i.e. no further action?*
- b) How many women were sent a letter stating that their case would not proceed to court, i.e. no further action?*

2. In the financial year 23-24 for people also involved in the Family Courts, or relationship breakdown:

- a) How many men were sent a letter stating that their case would not proceed to court, i.e. no further action?*
 - (i) How many of these men their alleged victim was female?*
 - (ii) How many of these men their alleged victim was male?*

- b) *How many women were sent a letter stating that their case would not proceed to court, i.e. no further action?*
- (i) *How many of these men their alleged victim was female?*
 - (ii) *How many of these men their alleged victim was male?"*

In response to question 1, please note that information in respect of PPS no prosecution decisions by gender of the suspect can be found in Table 6C of the [2023/24 PPS Statistical Bulletin](#).

In response to question 2, please be advised that the PPS does not capture any data relating to cases in the Family Court. Therefore under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, the PPS does not hold the requested information. We respectfully suggest you direct your request to the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service (NICTS), who may be able to assist you.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our review procedure. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of this response and you can do so by writing to the Head of Policy and Information, Public Prosecution Service, Belfast Chambers, 93 Chichester Street, BELFAST, BT1 3JR or alternatively by sending an e-mail to info@ppsni.gov.uk. You should state the grounds on which you are requesting the review.

Alternatively, you may wish to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Information Management Team
Public Prosecution Service