

[REDACTED]

7 July 2020

Our Ref: 080/20-21

[REDACTED]

I refer your email dated 3 June 2020 in which you requested information held by the Public Prosecution Service in respect of offences under the Terrorism Act. Your request will be 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 for:

"I'd like to see the number of people charged with, as well as the number of people ultimately convicted of, the offences listed below over the time period ranging from the first of January 2010 through to the end of December 2019, broken down by calendar year.

Please provide this data for the following offences:

- *s.58(1) of the Terrorism Act 2000*
- *s.57(1) of the Terrorism Act 2000*
- *s.2(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006*
- *s.5(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006"*

In response, please see tables below detailing prosecutorial decisions issued for specified Terrorism Act offences between 01/01/2010 and 31/12/2019 (Table 1), as well as data in respect of defendants dealt with in the Crown Court during the same period (Table 2). Offences included in the analysis are listed at Table 3. The tables should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

It should be noted that the data in respect of Tables 1 and 2 are based on *separate* analyses. Table 1 reflects the year in which the prosecutorial decision was taken and Table 2 reflects the year in which the defendant was dealt with in the Crown Court.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request under the Freedom of Information Act, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our review procedure. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of this response by writing to the Head of Policy & 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 clearly 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

Information Management Team
Public Prosecution Service

**Table 1:
Decisions Issued for Specified Terrorism Act Offences, 01/01/2010 - 31/12/2019 ¹**

Based on Most Serious Decision Issued Date

	Indictable Prosecution ²	No prosecution
2010	3	6
2011	-	6
2012	9	7
2013	16	5
2014	9	-
2015	6	5
2016	14	4
2017	6	-
2018	3	3
2019	3	7

'-' represents a count of less than 3 that cannot be provided in order to prevent disclosure.

¹ The list of offences included in the analysis can be found at Table 3. Please note that offence(s) under section 2(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006 were not found on the PPS Case Management System indicating that this provision has not been used.

² Refers to prosecution in the Crown Court.

**Table 2:
Defendants Dealt with for Specified Terrorism Act Offences in the Crown Court, 01/01/2010 - 31/12/2019 ¹**

Based on Indictable Disposal Date

Outcome	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Number
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	
Plea Of Guilty On All Charges	0	0	1	5	3	0	1	0	1	0	11
Plead Not Guilty to at Least One Charge - Found Guilty on at Least One Charge ²	1	2	0	5	9	2	3	4	2	5	33
Plea Not Guilty - Acquitted of All Charges	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	3	12
Other Outcome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
All Defendants	1	3	1	11	13	5	4	6	5	8	57

¹ The list of offences included in the analysis can be found at Table 3. Please note that offence(s) under section 2(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006 were not found on the PPS Case Management System indicating that this provision has not been used.

² An overall outcome of 'Plead Not Guilty to at Least One Charge - Found Guilty on at Least One Charge' means that the defendant may have been convicted of an offence(s) other than one of the specific offences of interest.

Please note that outcomes prior to April 2012 have not been validated and are provided with that caveat attached. This is relevant to figures for 2010, 2011 and 2012 in the table above.

Table 3:
Offences Included within the Analysis

Complaint Offence Description	Complaint Offence Legislation
AIDING AND ABETTING COLLECTING INFORMATION LIKELY TO BE OF USE TO TERRORISTS	Section 58(1)(b) of the Terrorism Act 2000
COLLECTING INFORMATION LIKELY TO BE OF USE TO TERRORISTS	Section 58(1)(b) Terrorism Act 2000
POSSESSION OF ARTICLES FOR USE IN TERRORISM	Section 57(1) of the Terrorism Act 2000
POSSESSING DOCUMENTS OR RECORDS LIKELY TO BE USEFUL TO TERRORISTS	Section 58(1)(b) of the Terrorism Act 2000
POSSESSING INFORMATION LIKELY TO BE OF USE TO TERRORISTS	Section 58 Terrorism Act 2000
POSSESS OF TERRORIST INFORMATION	Section 57 Terrorism Act 2000
POSSESS OF ARTICLES FOR USE IN TERRORISM	Section 57 Terrorism Act 2000
COLLECTING OR MAKING RECORD OF INFORMATION LIKELY TO BE USEFUL TO A TERRORIST	Section 58(1)(a) of the Terrorism Act 2000
PREPARATION OF TERRORIST ACTS	Section 5(1) of the Terrorism Act 2006