



Public  
Prosecution  
Service

Policy and Information Unit  
Public Prosecution Service  
Belfast Chambers  
93 Chichester Street  
Belfast BT1 3JR

[REDACTED]

FOI 2175/20-21

12 April 2021

[REDACTED]

I refer to your email dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021 in which you asked for information regarding the number of prosecutions and outcomes in the year 2018/19 to include gender and ages of persons between 10 and 18. 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. We would like a breakdown of suspects aged between 10 and 18 referred to the PPS during the financial year 2018/2019 by:
  - Gender
  - Age year (e.g. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18)
  - Nationality
2. We would also like to request a breakdown of the prosecutorial decisions for the above suspects by gender, age and nationality. For example, number of indictable prosecutions for males and separately for females.
3. Finally, we would like to request a breakdown of the court outcomes for the above suspects by gender, age and nationality. For instance, number convicted of at least one offence via age.

**Independent, fair and effective**

In response to question 1 please see Table 1 (a-d) of the attached spreadsheet detailing the ages (between 10 and 18), gender and nationalities of suspects referred to the PPS during the financial year 2018/19.

In respect of questions 2 and 3, please see Table 2 (a-d) and Table 3 (a-h) of the attached spreadsheet which details the decisions and outcomes in both the Crown and the Magistrates' Courts during the financial year 2018/19.

This information should be read in conjunction with the notes accompanying the tables.

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](mailto: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

Yours sincerely,

**Information Management Team**  
**PPS**