

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2016-01569

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: Westlink

Request and Answer:

Question

Regarding Divis Bridge, Westlink, I have noticed this bridge has a low metal rail on top of the brick compared to other Westlink crossings. I am starting a campaign to highlight this and to get Road Services to put up higher railings. What I require is the number of times the PSNI have had to be in attendance, at this site over the last three years for people who have been talked down/for people who have jumped and survived/for people who have jumped and not survived.

Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Belfast City Policing District conducted a search of incidents recorded as suicide/attempted suicide for the past three years and two incidents have been recorded at this location. On one occasion a person jumped off the bridge and survived and on the other occasion a person jumped off the bridge and died. Incidents recorded under a different classification would not be captured by this search.

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 Freedom of Information Team, 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 Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You

can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. 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 his 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

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