



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 10V4466

gdt July 2010

*Dear Mr Burns,*

**To ask the Minister of Justice to detail the total number of (i) arson attacks; and (ii) vandalism attacks on (a) GAA premises; (b) Orange Halls; and (c) Masonic Halls, in each of the last 10 years.** 7980/10

The above mentioned question was placed before the Minister of Justice, who has deemed that this is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Therefore the Chief Constable has been asked to respond directly.

The information you require in answer to your question is contained in the attached table and explanatory notes.

If you have any queries regarding this response, please address your correspondence to Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE.

I trust this is of assistance.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*John McCaughan*

**JOHN MCCAUGHAN**  
Superintendent  
for Chief Constable

Mr T. Burns MLA  
Parliament Buildings  
Stormont  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX

Command Secretariat, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT5 6LE  
Telephone: 028 90700006, Fax: 028 90700124



*Calls within Police Service of Northern Ireland telephone system may be monitored or recorded*

### Attacks on Orange Halls / GAA premises<sup>1</sup>

Over recent years, PSNI figures for attacks on symbolic premises have been collated from a variety of sources. Figures for 2000/01 to 2006/07 were sourced from security statistics collated by PSNI Central Statistics Unit through trawls of information held on the incident recording system and were not reliant on a sectarian motivation having been recorded.

**Table 1. Attacks on Orange Halls & GAA Premises 2000/01 – 2006/07**

Year	Orange Halls		GAA premises	
	Malicious Fires	Criminal Damage	Malicious Fires	Criminal Damage
2000/01	*	24	0	8
2001/02	13	10	*	7
2002/01	6	*	0	*
2003/04	13	*	0	*
2004/05	4	8	*	*
2005/06	19	6	0	0
2006/07	20	17	*	0

Source: PSNI Central Statistics Unit

**Please note this information does not include any bombing incidents that occurred at Orange Halls or GAA Clubs.**

\*Disclosure control has been applied to this table. Cells with values of 3 or less have been suppressed to avoid details of individual organisations being identified

As a result of a recent review of the process, further changes have been introduced to improve the accuracy and reliability of the figures. Figures for 2007/08 onwards have been extracted from the PSNI's crime recording system and relate to all offences where a sectarian motivation has been recorded, occurring at symbolic premises, and where the premises is the intended target. This ensures that PSNI figures on attacks on symbolic premises are included in the sectarian hate crime figures.

**Table 2. Attacks on Orange Halls & GAA Premises 2007/08 – 2009/10**

Year	Orange Halls		GAA premises	
	Arson offences recorded	Criminal Damage offences recorded	Arson offences recorded	Criminal Damage offences recorded
2007/08	16	29	*	4
2008/09	5	42	*	5
2009/10	13	46	0	8

Source: PSNI Central Statistics Unit

\*Disclosure control has been applied to this table. Cells with values of 3 or less have been suppressed to avoid details of individual organisations being identified