



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

Com Sec: 104221

15th July 2010

Dear Mr Storey,

To ask the Minister of Justice how many incidents of domestic abuse, involving an ex-partner of the victim, were recorded in (i) H District; (ii) Northern Ireland, in each of the last five years.

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 specific information you require is contained in the appended table.

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

M Storey MLA
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST
BT4 3XX

Number of crimes recorded with a domestic motivation¹ where the offender is an ex-partner of the victim²

Year	Northern Ireland	H District
2005/06	389	50
2006/07	473	67
2007/08	561	74
2008/09	620	64
2009/10	737	68

Source: PSNI Central Statistics Unit

¹ Domestic motivation definition: Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse (psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional) by one family member against another or adults who are or have been intimate partners, regardless of gender, and whether a crime has occurred or not, will be recorded as domestic abuse.

Recorded Crimes

Recorded crimes (sometimes referred to as notifiable offences) are those which are deemed to be indictable or triable-either-way.

A crime will be recorded as domestic abuse where it meets the definition provided above. Not all domestic abuse incidents will result in the recording of a crime.

Domestic abuse crimes are classified according to the Home Office Counting Rules and form a subset of the overall recorded crime figures.

Data Quality: The Police Service of Northern Ireland's statistics on incidents and crimes with a domestic abuse motivation are derived from a motivation 'tick box' contained in the Occurrence Management Form which has to be completed by a police officer or member of police staff for each such reported incident/crime. The correct application of a domestic abuse motivation for all such incidents/crimes is not quality assured by the Police Service of Northern Ireland's Central Statistics Branch, but quarterly audits are conducted to ensure that any under or over-recording is corrected.

² Relates to crimes recorded with a domestic motivation, than have since been detected and where the person clearing the crime is an ex-partner of the victim.

³ This data could be subject to change as it is based on a live crime recording system.