



Department of
Justice
An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Máinnstríe O tha Laa
www.justice-ni.gov.uk

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31st March 2022

REFERENCE: FOI\22\16

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your request for information dated 25th March 2022 and detailed below:

'Please can I request, under the Freedom of Information Act, figures at local authority level on TV licence prosecutions.

Specifically:

- 1. The number of people living in each local authority area of Northern Ireland who were a) prosecuted for and b) convicted of non-payment of a TV licence in the calendar year 2020*
- 2. The number of people aged 75 and over living in each local authority area of Northern Ireland who were a) prosecuted for and b) convicted of non-payment of a TV licence in the calendar year 2020'*

The Department has checked Departmental datasets and found the following number of prosecutions and convictions for cases dealt with at courts in 2020, in relation to TV licence offences. There were no prosecutions or convictions where the defendant was aged 75 or over at the time a case was dealt with in 2020.



Prosecutions and convictions for TV licence offences by Local Government District of residence of defendant, 2020

LGD	Prosecuted	Convicted
Antrim and Newtownabbey	119	99
Ards and North Down	86	68
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	197	136
Belfast	559	438
Causeway Coast and Glens	113	80
Derry City and Strabane	201	140
Fermanagh and Omagh	72	50
Lisburn and Castlereagh	103	67
Mid and East Antrim	121	90
Mid Ulster	127	93
Newry, Mourne and Down	134	111
Not known	1	1
Total	1,833	1,373

Note:

1. Figures relate to initial disposals at courts. Appeals are not included.
2. Figures relate to local government district resided in by defendant at time case was dealt with.

In compiling this FOI answer it was noticed that the figures provided to you in relation to FOI\22\2 had been incorrectly aggregated, using the Local Government District breakdown which preceded the current one. I wish to apologise for this oversight. The correct breakdown has been provided in the following table. As was the case in 2020, there were no prosecutions or convictions where the defendant was aged 75 or over at the time a case was dealt with in 2021.



Prosecutions and convictions at courts for TV licence offences by local government district, 2021

Council Area	Prosecutions	Convictions
Antrim and Newtownabbey	35	22
Ards and North Down	44	21
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	150	103
Belfast	56	36
Causeway Coast and Glens	69	46
Derry City and Strabane	173	120
Fermanagh and Omagh	18	12
Lisburn and Castlereagh	54	31
Mid and East Antrim	51	37
Mid Ulster	73	51
Newry, Mourne and Down	61	45
not known	11	8
Total	795	532

Note:

1. Figures relate to initial disposals at courts. Appeals are not included.
2. Figures relate to local government district resided in by defendant at time case was dealt with.
3. Figures for 2021 are provisional.

If you are unhappy at the way in which your request has been handled, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask the Commissioner to investigate whether the DoJ has complied with the terms of the FOIA. You can write to the Information Commissioner at:



Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Further details on the role of the Information Commissioner can be found at:
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

DoJ Records & Information Manager

