



Home Office

# Identity & Passport Service

Xxxxx XXXXXXX

[X.XXXXX@XXXXXXXXXX.XXX](mailto:X.XXXXX@XXXXXXXXXX.XXX)

Reference: FOICR 19270/11

25 July 2011

Dear Xxxxx

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your e-mail of 6 July, in which you ask for information on passports issued to applicants born in Northern Ireland. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am able to disclose the information as set out in the enclosed Annex.

In keeping with the Freedom of Information Act, we assume that all information can be released to the public unless it is exempt. In line with normal practice we are therefore releasing the information which you requested via the Home Office website.

I hope that this information meets your requirements. I would like to assure you that we have provided you with all relevant information that Identity and Passport Service (IPS) holds.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference FOICR 19270/11. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team  
Home Office  
Ground Floor, Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF  
e-mail: [FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

Headquarters  
Identity and Passport Service  
Parliamentary & Correspondence  
Management Team  
4th Floor, Peel Building, SE  
2 Marsham Street  
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Tel (020) 7752 7125

Fax (0870) 336 9175

Email [hqenquiries@ips.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:hqenquiries@ips.gsi.gov.uk)

Web [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/ips](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/ips)

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

**X Xxxxxx**

**Parliamentary & Correspondence Management Team**

## Freedom of Information request from Xxxxxx Xxxxxxx (reference FOI19270)

1. The total number of new passports issued to applicants born in Northern Ireland in each of the past 10 years broken down by (i) town of address and (ii) postcode. If (i) and (ii) are not possible, could the stats be broken down by county of address please?

The information you have requested is not held in the format requested. As an alternative, I am able to offer general Belfast application intake figures which may be of interest to you.

|      | First Issue | Renewal | Lost  |                                  |  |
|------|-------------|---------|-------|----------------------------------|--|
| 2001 | 9916        | 14607   | 1627  | Partial year (Nov 2001- forward) |  |
| 2002 | 105803      | 115919  | 14851 |                                  |  |
| 2003 | 92296       | 123007  | 14028 |                                  |  |
| 2004 | 95770       | 183443  | 15259 |                                  |  |
| 2005 | 78790       | 202852  | 15410 |                                  |  |
| 2006 | 79035       | 222807  | 17972 |                                  |  |
| 2007 | 61512       | 177243  | 16785 |                                  |  |
| 2008 | 52668       | 174509  | 14776 |                                  |  |
| 2009 | 66772       | 249714  | 18145 |                                  |  |
| 2010 | 73239       | 295462  | 20579 |                                  |  |
| 2011 | 17604       | 72796   | 4263  | Partial year (Jan - March 2011)  |  |

2. The total number of new passports issued free of charge in each of the past 10 years to applications aged 65 or over born in Northern Ireland?

We offer concessionary passports to veterans of the Second World War. This applies to anyone born on or before 2 September 1929. This scheme was introduced in 2004 for veterans of the Second World War who were attending 60th Anniversary Commemorative Events and was later extended to cover everyone who was 16 or older by the end of the war and so may have contributed to the war effort in a military or civilian capacity.

We do not issue blanket free passports for the over 65s, but please see the figures below for passports issued to qualifying war veterans.

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 2004-2005    | 102,994        |
| 2005-2006    | 157,229        |
| 2006-2007    | 127,820        |
| 2007-2008    | 109,655        |
| 2008-2009    | 82,034         |
| 2009-2010    | 71,311         |
| 2010-2011    | 62,926         |
| 2011-2012    | 12,171         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>726,140</b> |

Date 25 July 2011