

FOI DOF/2025-0619

Request

- 1) In the past ten years how many Greivences have been lodged by uniformed grade, ie Senior Officer and below against Governor grades in the Northern Ireland Prison Service?
- 2) What is the breakdown of Greivences asked for in question one by establishments, ie, HMP Maghaberry, HMP Maggilligan, Hydebank Wood College etc?
- 3) How many Greivences in question one are for alleged bullying and what is the breakdown down of establishments?
- 4) What is the break down of Greivences asked in question one are against male and female staff and what is the breakdown of gender?
- 5) How many Greivences asked in question one have been upheld? What is the breakdown of these by establishments?
- 6) How many Greivences asked in Question one are still unresolved? Especially in regard to governor Seaneen Farrey with regards to bullying and harassment How long in days have been unresolved since they were lodged?
- 7) As per Question 6 what is the breakdown of establishments?

DoF Response

I can confirm the Department holds some of the information requested.

1. 231 grievances have been lodged by NIPS uniformed grades between 1 April 2017 to 23 October 2025. We do not report on grievances in the format requested.
2. The breakdown of grievances during the reporting period as referred to in Q.1 by establishments is:

Establishment	Number of Grievances lodged between 1/4/2017 to 23/10/2025
Maghaberry	120
Magilligan	64
Hydebank Wood (Including HQ affiliated areas)	27
PECCS	20

3. The information is not held in this format

4. The information is not held in this format.
5. The Information is not held in this format.
6. Out of the 231 grievances referred to in Question 1, 105 grievances are recorded as not yet closed. We are unable to comment on specific individuals, and do not hold the details in respect of individual cases.
7. The breakdown of establishments is as follows:

Establishment	No. of Grievances recorded as not yet closed at 23/10/25
Maghaberry	67
Magilligan	18
Hydebank Wood/Headquarters/Prison Service College	6
PECCS	14

For clarification NICS HR was only established in 2017 and therefore it only holds information from this point forward. The NICS Grievance Procedure provides the framework to be followed by all NICS employees who wish to raise a work-related grievance and how their department will take action, at as low a level as possible, to resolve the grievance, as far as is reasonably practicable.

While NICS HR holds information of reported progress in the completion of employee relations-related casework, it does not report on the time taken to resolve grievance cases or the category of complaint. It is for the Northern Ireland Prison Service to consider grievances, appoint decision officers and manage the grievance to a conclusion.