



Gary Maxey  
 Information Rights  
 Bedfordshire Police Headquarters,  
 Woburn Road, Kempston,  
 Bedford, MK43 9AX

Telephone: 01234 842547  
 Email: [foi@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

30th April 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/02174

Dear Requestor

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/02174**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 29th March. I note you seek access to the following information:

**How many "closure order" applications have you made in the last five years (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)? Please can you say what year the closure order was made and the reason given for it (eg drug use / noise) etc. Also, whether the order was rejected or granted.**

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

**RESPONSE** - Following enquiries conducted by Bedfordshire Police please see our response in the table below: -

Year	Reason	Granted / Refused
2014	Licensing	No recorded details
2014	ASB Closure	Three Months
2014	Brothel	Three Months
2014	Brothel	Three Months
2015	Licensing	No recorded details
2015	Licensing	Application not recorded
2015	Brothel	No recorded details
2015	Brothel	Three Months
2015	Brothel	Three Months
2015	Drugs	Three Months
2015	Drugs	Three Months
2015	Drugs	Three Months
2015	Drugs	One Month
2015	Brothel	Three Months
2015	Brothel	Three Months
2015	Drugs	One Month
2015	Drugs	Three Months
2015	Licensing	No recorded details
2015	Drug	Three Months
2015	Brothel	No recorded details
2015	ASB Closure	Three Months

2015	ASB Closure	Three Months
2016	Brothel	No recorded details
2016	Brothel	No recorded details
2016	Licensing	Three Months
2016	Licensing	Three Months
2016	Licensing	Three Months
2017	ASB Closure	Application not recorded
2017	Licensing	Three Months
2017	Drugs	Three Months
2017	Sex Trade	Three Months
2017	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Sex Trade	No recorded details
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Application not recorded
2018	Brothel	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Process terminated by police
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Six Months
2018	Drugs	Process terminated by police
2018	Drugs	Process terminated by police
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Process terminated by police
2018	Drugs	Two Months
2018	Drugs	Process terminated by police
2018	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2018	Drugs	No recorded details
2018	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2018	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2018	Sex Trade	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Process terminated by police

2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Six Months
2018	Noise Nuisance	Three Months
2018	ASB Closure	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2018	Drugs	Three Months
2019	Drugs	One Month
2019	Drugs	No recorded details
2019	ASB Closure	Three Months
2019	Drugs	Three Months
2019	Drugs	Three Months
2019	Sex Trade	Three Months
2019	Drugs	No recorded details
2019	Drugs	Three Months
2019	Sex Trade	Three Months
2019	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2019	ASB Closure	No recorded details
2019	ASB Closure	Three Months

Any further information held by Bedfordshire Police in relation to this request is exempt under the following exemption: -

Section 30(1)(a)(b) Investigations

The Section 30 exemption is a class based qualified exemption.

This means that the legislators when writing the legislation considered that the release of such information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 would cause harm to the public authority or individual concerned. There is therefore no requirement to carry out a HARM Test in respect of such information. However there is a requirement to carry out a Public Interest Test in order to establish whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption may be outweighed by a wider public benefit in disclosure.

**Public Interest Considerations:**

S30 - Factors favouring confirming that information is held:

Providing information relevant to this request would lead to a better informed public, improving their knowledge and understanding of how the Police service respond and deal with such types of investigation. Public confidence would be maintained and the public may be encouraged to assist more readily with such investigations.

S30 Factors against confirming or denying that information is held:

Any information generated by an investigation, particularly in these circumstances needs to be treated with sensitivity. In some cases providing information which could disclose facts which would prejudice the evidence gathering within an investigation. In addition, the police service would not disclose information which could identify investigative activity, and subsequently undermine those processes. To do so would hinder the prevention or detection of crime.

S30 Public Interest Test

Whilst providing information would reassure the public, including information as to how public funds are spent, confirming details of any investigation would compromise that investigative process.

Anything which would jeopardise future court proceedings would not be disclosed prior by Bedfordshire Police, as to do so would undermine police investigations and hinder the prevention and detection of crime. It would not therefore be in the public interest to reveal that such investigations are being undertaken.

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Gary Maxey  
Information Rights

Bedfordshire Police provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Bedfordshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.