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Information Rights  
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7th February 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/00208

Dear Requestor

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/00208**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 10th January. I note you seek access to the following information:

**Forensic examination of digital devices**

- 1) For each of the last four years (2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018) please could you tell me the total number of digital devices that were forensically examined by your police force.
- 2) Please provide as much of the following information that you hold or are able to gather, for each of the four years:
  - a) A breakdown of examined devices by the 'type' of device. Eg 500 mobile phones, 200 iPads, etc.
  - b) A breakdown of who the examined devices belonged to – in particular, the number that belonged to (a) suspects, (b) complainants or (c) witnesses.
  - c) The average time that the examined devices were held for before being returned to their owners. If the data is available, please break this down for (a) suspects, (b) complainants and (c) witnesses.

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 within the Force please see our response below. Please note data is not available for 2015.

- 1) 2016 – 2599  
2017 – 2117  
2018 – 1886
- 2) a) 2016 – 113 Mobile phones & sims, 1466 Computers & other items.  
2017 – 948 Mobile phones & sims, 1169 Computers & other items.  
2018 – 1051 Mobile phones & sims, 835 Computers & other items.  
  
b) This information is not available from the case management system.  
  
c) Bedfordshire Police does not hold average wait times for items to be examined.

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

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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.