



Geneen Bill  
Information Rights  
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28th February 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/00771

Dear Requestor

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/00771**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 1st February. I note you seek access to the following information:

**1) Since the inception of "Clare's Law," please provide the following information:**

**The total number of Disclosure Requests by Calendar Year (up to and including 31st January 2019,) by:**

**Gender,  
Age,  
Ethnic Origin.**

**For your ease of reference, please provide the details for the "Person At Risk" i.e. the person for whom the enquiry has been made by directly and/or on behalf of.**

**2) Since the inception of "Clare's Law," up to and including 31st January 2019, please provide the following information:**

**The Gender of the person making the enquiry directly on behalf of the "Person At Risk".**

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.

Following enquiries within the Force please see our response below.

**Response** – I can confirm that information relating to Disclosures of "Clare's Law" since the inception to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 has been published on the Bedfordshire Police website.

<https://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/assets/Beds-FOI/FOI-2018/June-2018/FOI201802490-Jun2018.pdf>

This information is therefore exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 21 provides that where information is available to you from another source we do not have to provide further copies. The information you have requested is available on the Bedfordshire Police website using the above link.

Bedfordshire Police have no operational requirement to keep central records of Gender, Age or Ethnicity for each enquiry, therefore this would require a manual search to establish if this information has been recorded. Unfortunately this means it is not possible to suggest a way to refine this request, as even if the date range were reduced it would still require hundreds of records to be manually checked.

We therefore, consider that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the appropriate limit of £450 as has been stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees & Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that –

*“Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”*

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Bedfordshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

However, I am able to provide the following information relative to your request, retrieved before the fees limit was exceeded. I hope this is helpful however; it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

1. The number of enquiries received:

2018 – 40  
2019– 11

2. The Gender of the person making the enquiry is:

2018 – Female 36  
Male 4  
2019 – Female 11

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.