



Geneen Bill
Information Rights
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14th January 2019

Our Ref: FOI2018/06908

Dear Requestor

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/06908

I write in connection with your request for information received on 30th November. I note you seek access to the following information:

I would like a breakdown of the number of complaints of crimes at immigration removal centers in the last four calendar years. I would like to know the nature of the criminal complaint, the allegations, which center they were made from and what the outcome of the police investigation was.

The centers are:

- Brook House Immigration Removal Centre near Gatwick Airport
- Campsfield House in Oxfordshire run by Mitie
- Colnbrook Immigration Removal Centre near Heathrow Airport which is run by Mitie
- Dover Immigration Removal Centre which is run by the Her Majesty's Prison Service
- Dungavel in Lanarkshire run by GEO Group
- Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre also near Heathrow Airport which is run by Mitie
- Larne House Immigration Reception Centre, Larne, Antrim which is run by Tascor, a subsidiary of Capita
- Morton Hall Immigration Removal Centre, near Newark which is run by the Her Majesty's Prison Service
- Pennine House Immigration Reception Centre, at Manchester Airport which is run by Tascor, a subsidiary of Capita
- Tinsley House Immigration Removal Centre near Gatwick Airport which is run by G4S
- HM Prison The Verne on the Isle of Portland which is run by Her Majesty's Prison Service
- Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre in Bedfordshire run by Serco

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 – Bedfordshire Police has conducted a search for offences recorded at Immigration Centres however the location recorded as Immigration Centre is not always where a crime took place but where it is reported. Therefore we have to manually search through every record to establish where the incident took place to then continue to search for the detail of data requested. This manual search will take in excess of 39 hours. 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.

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.