



Geneen Bill
 Information Rights
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11th January 2019

Our Ref: FOI2018/07115

Dear Requestor

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/07115

I write in connection with your request for information received on 11th December. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. **How many tasers were seized over the past year (jan 1 2018 to the date this email was received) ?**
2. **How many tasers were seized in 2017?**
3. **How many of these were disguised stun guns or tasers e.g. stun guns disguised as iPhones and torches?**
4. **How many crimes were reported to Bedfordshire Police that involved suspects using a taser in 2017 and 2018?**
5. **What were the classifications for these crimes? e.g. robbery, assault.**
6. **How many prosecutions have their been for the possession of an offensive weapon (taser) in 2017 and 2018?**

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 below. Bedfordshire Police made a significant investment in a new ICT system, Athena, in May of this year which, when fully implemented, will help keep Bedfordshire safe, bring more offenders to justice and improve outcomes for victims. Updating our ICT was absolutely necessary to ensure Bedfordshire Police remains as effective and efficient as possible. The public should be reassured crime continues to be reported and investigated as normal but whilst colleagues become more comfortable and familiar with how Athena works Bedfordshire Police has some concerns around data quality for which reason some of the data provided concerning events recorded after 23 May, may include some inaccuracies. We apologise for the situation and are working to resolve it as soon as possible.

1. 43
2. 18
3. 2017 – 1, 2018 – 2
4. 2017 – 8, 2018 – 33
5. Up to 22.5.18:

	2017	2018
Possession of Weapons	6	1
Public Order		1
Robbery	1	2
Violence with Injury	1	

From 23.5.18:

Crime type	2018
BURGLARY - RESIDENTIAL	1
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	1
MISC CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	1
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	1
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	9
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	4
ROBBERY - PERSONAL	1
TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS	3
VIOLENCE WITH INJURY	5
VIOLENCE WITHOUT INJURY	3

6. 2017 – 6, 2018 – 10

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

Geneen Bill
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.