



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)

15th January 2019

Our Ref: FOI2018/07198

Dear Requestor

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/07198**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 17th December. I note you seek access to the following information:

**1. Please provide the number of number of non-crime hate incidents reported to the force for calendar years 2016, 2017 and the year to date 17 December 2018. For each, please supply the hate crime category (race, religion/fath, homophobic, transphobic, disability or any other category you use) and the type of offence (i.e. harrasment).**

**2. Please provide anonymised details for each of these incidents including date, nature of incident, what happened, why it was flagged a hate crime and where the it took place.**

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** - We are not able to provide anonymised data as taking data to such a granular level would lead to the identification of individuals and has, therefore, not been provided.

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.

Non Crime Incidents	2016	2017	Calendar YTD to 17th December 2018
HATE INCIDENT - AGE	1	0	1

HATE INCIDENT - DISABILITY	23	31	14
HATE INCIDENT - HOMOPHOBIC	25	17	21
HATE INCIDENT - RACIAL	158	172	155
HATE INCIDENT - RELIGIOUS	31	32	24
HATE INCIDENT - TRANSGENDER	6	2	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>219</b>

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.