



Gary Maxey
Information Rights
Bedfordshire Police Headquarters,
Woburn Road, Kempston,
Bedford, MK43 9AX

Telephone: 01234 842547
Email: foi@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

1st July 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/03619

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/03619

I write in connection with your request for information received on 4th June. I note you seek access to the following information:

How many registered sex offenders are being monitored in the force area?

How many of these have a lifetime notification?

For the following time periods how many people who have a lifetime notification on the Sex Offenders Register have applied to have it revoked? - Please supply figures for 2019 to date, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

How many of these applications were successful? -Please supply figures for 2019 to date, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

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 Sex Offenders being monitored has been published on Bedfordshire Police website.

- 1) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/751322/Bedfordshire_MAPPA_Annual_Report_2017-18.pdf
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements-mappa-annual-reports>

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 Bedfordshire Police website using the above link.

- 2) 305
- 3) 2014 6 applied to have this revoked
2015 6 applied to have this revoked
2016 10 applied to have this revoked
2017 6 applied to have this revoked
2018 4 applied to have this revoked
- 4) https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/751322/Bedfordshire_MAPPA_Annual_Report_2017-18.pdf
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multi-agency-public-protection-arrangements-mappa-annual-reports>

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Bedfordshire Police can confirm that it holds additional information in relation to your question 3 & 4 for 2019, however, I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested. Such information is exempt under the following exemption:

Section 22(1)(a)

The Section 22 exemption is a class based qualified exemption and is therefore subject to the public interest test.

Factors in favour of disclosure

There is a public interest in the disclosure of this information.

Factors in favour of non-disclosure

The requested information will be published by Bedfordshire Police in the near future.

The Force publish the data requested and it would incur an additional impact on police resources to carry out ad-hoc searches for information of the same nature. This is at a time of extreme pressure on resources due to an unprecedented number of FOI requests in a force where it has been highly publicised that there is a lack in Government funding to meet the policing needs of the country.

Balance Test

In this case the consideration for disclosure is the public interest in regard to the police enforcement in this area and this needs to be weighed against the impact disclosure before the Force's publication would have. Due to the pressures on the force and the need to protect the public it is not in the public interest to prioritise police resources to allow access to information before the planned publication date. Therefore, the balancing test for disclosure is not made out.

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.