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16th July 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/03982

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/03982**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 18th June. I note you seek access to the following information:

**Profiles 1. The total number of Islamophobic hate crimes which were recorded between April 2018-2019, broken down by months. 2. Further to question 1, of these please provide the following data for the victim(s) involved in the case: a) please could you include a breakdown of the data by gender for each month; b) please could you include a breakdown of the data by age for each month; c) please could you include a breakdown by ethnicity for each month. 3. Further to question 1, of these please provide the following data for the suspect(s) involved in the case: a) please could you include a breakdown of the data by gender for each month; b) please could you include a breakdown of the data by age for each month; c) please could you include a breakdown by ethnicity for each month. ----- Profiles part two (Race) 1. The total number of race hate crimes which were recorded between April 2018-2019, broken down by months. 2. Further to question 1, of these please provide the following data for the victim(s) involved in the case: a) please could you include a breakdown of the data by gender for each month; b) please could you include a breakdown of the data by age for each month; c) please could you include a breakdown by ethnicity including those where ethnic identity was not specified or not recorded. Please ensure the 'Asian' category has a breakdown by Pakistani and Bangladeshi victims. 3. Further to question 1, of these please provide the following data for the suspect(s) involved in the case: a) please could you include a breakdown of the data by gender for each month; b) please could you include a breakdown of the data by age for each month; c) please could you include a breakdown by ethnicity including those where ethnic identity was not specified or not recorded. Please ensure the 'Asian' category has a breakdown by Pakistani and Bangladeshi victims. ----- Mosques 1. The total number of Islamophobic hate crimes which were recorded between April 2018-2019 and where the primary, or secondary, location tag was 'mosque' (or any other religious institution tag that describes a building used by the Muslim communities for, but not limited to, worship). Please provide this information broken down by months. a) Examples of locations tag include, but may not be limited to: Mosque, Madrasa, Islamic Schools, Islamic Prayer rooms. 2. Further to question 1, of these please provide information on the types of criminal acts which occurred, broken down by months (e.g. vandalism, arson, harassment, etc.). 3. Further to question 1, of these please provide the name of the city/town/village where each attack occurred. Grouping data under one category for each month is fine. 4. Further to question 1, of these please provide the following data for the suspect(s) involved in the case: a) please could you include a breakdown of the data by gender for each month; b) please could you include a breakdown of the data by age for each month; c) please could you include a breakdown by ethnicity. ----- Types of abuse and case outcome: 1. The total number of Islamophobic hate crimes which were recorded between April 2018-2019, broken down by months. 2. Further to question 1, of these please provide a breakdown of the types of criminal acts which occurred, broken down by months (e.g. vandalism, arson, harassment, etc.). 3. Further to question 1, of these please provide information on how many were passed onto the Crown Prosecution Service, broken down by months. 4. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases where no further action was taken due to lack of evidence, broken down by months. 5. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases where no further action was taken due to the victim's choice, broken down by months. 6. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases that lead to community resolution, broken down by months. ----- Types of abuse and case outcome (race-hate crimes): 1. The total number of race hate crimes which were recorded between April 2018-2019, broken down by months. 2. Further to question 1, of these please provide a breakdown of the types of criminal acts which occurred, broken down by months (e.g. vandalism, arson, harassment, etc.). 3. Further to question 1, of these please provide information on how many were passed onto the Crown Prosecution Service, broken down by months. 4. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases where no further action was taken due to lack of evidence, broken down by months. 5. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases where no further action was taken**

**due to the victim's choice, broken down by months. 6. Further to question 1, of these please provide the number of cases that lead to community resolution, broken down by months.**

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** – Bedfordshire police can confirm that it holds information in relation to your request however, I am not obliged to supply some of the information you have requested. Such information is exempt under the following exemption/s:

**Section 40(2) – Personal Information**

The Section 40 exemption is a class based absolute exemption - This means that the legislators have identified that there would be harm in disclosure and there is no need to evidence this or carry out a public interest test.

However, following enquiries conducted by Bedfordshire Police and their crime recording systems within the Force please see our response below: -

Please see the attached document marked as **Annex A - FOI2019 03982.**

Bedfordshire Police made a significant investment in a new ICT system, Athena, in May 2018, 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 2018, may include some inaccuracies. We apologise for the situation and are working to resolve it as soon as possible.

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

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.