



Information Rights  
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30th July 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/04307

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/04307**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 3rd July. I note you seek access to the following information:

**We are holding an event in Scotland in Sept to officially launch the service in Scotland and to raise awareness of domestic abuse & pets.**

**As part of this we're looking to do a press release and would like to include statistics about domestic abuse cases that have involved pets.**

**The DASH risk assessment completed for all cases of domestic abuse by front line staff. These are the questions that are also asked on the National DV Helpline to assess someone's risk.**

**I wondered if you could please share statistics on q.22 of the DASH (has XX ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?). Ideally from the past year but any data you have for the Bedfordshire area would be brilliant please.**

**Alongside this, I wondered if you also have stats on how many domestic abuse offences/investigations have also involved a dog/animal?**

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 conducted by Bedfordshire Police and their Performance Team within the Force please see our response in the table below: -

Question	Responses	Yes		No		Refused	
22. Has the abuser ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?	1285	59	4.6%	985	76.7%	232	18.1%

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

**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.

