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29th March 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/01486

Dear Requestor

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/01486

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

I would like to know please for each of the years 2019 (to date); 2018; and 2017:

The number of each of the following offences recorded, and the outcomes for those offences.

- **Violence against**
- **the person involving a knife (broken down by offence type if possible)**
-
- **Robbery involving**
- **a knife**
-
- **Possession**
- **of a bladed article**
-
- **Possession**
- **of an offensive weapon where that was a knife or bladed article**

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 conducted by Bedfordshire Police please see our response in the tables below: -

All Knife Crime - Recorded between 01.01.17 - 22.05.18					
Year/CRIME GROUP	CHARGE/ SUMMONS	CAUTION	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION	UNSOLVED	Grand Total
2017	115	7	12	444	578
Violence Against the Person	69	4	10	281	364
Robbery	26	2		150	178
Possession of Weapons	20	1	2	13	36
2018	37	2	2	171	212
Violence Against the Person	26	1	2	106	135
Robbery	6			62	68
Possession of Weapons	5	1		3	9
Grand Total	152	9	14	615	790

All Knife Crime - Recorded between 23.05.18 - 28.02.19					
YEAR/CRIME GROUP	CHARGED/ SUMMONS	CAUTION	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION	UNSOLVED	Grand Total
2018	120	7	5	349	481
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	39	2	4	206	251
ROBBERY	14		1	87	102
POSSESS WEAPON OFFENCES	67	5		56	128
2019	22	1	1	73	97
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	5			42	47
ROBBERY	6		1	24	31
POSSESS WEAPON OFFENCES	11	1		7	19
Grand Total	142	8	6	422	578

Source data: Beds report (Athena)

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.

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.