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8th May 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/02416

Dear Requestor

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/02416

I write in connection with your request for information received on 8th April. I note you seek access to the following information:

I would like to submit a Freedom of Information request for the following information:

1. Please provide the recorded number of possession of a bladed article offences that have taken place where the location is a school/educational facility and where the person suspected of the offence was a child (under the age of 16) for the calendar years:

i) 2018

2. Please break down point 1 by each child's age.

3. Time permitting, please provide a break down of the outcomes of the investigations in point 1 (including number of charges/cautions e.t.c)

4. If you can provide any further breakdown about the offences - i.e. the type of bladed article or any other information - then please do include this.

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 have conducted enquiries with their crime recording systems please see our response on the tables below: -

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.

Recorded Crime - Location Type – School - Possession of Bladed Article or Point 01.01.2018 - 22.05.2018 (CMS) OFFENDERS AGE - Under 16				
	2018			Grand Total
Victims Age/Offence	CHARGE / SUMMONS	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION	UNSOLVED	
12			1	1
Stanley Knife/Blade (Carried - Not Used)			1	1
14	1		2	3
Knife/Dagger (Carried - Not Used)			1	1
Stanley Knife/Blade (Carried - Not Used)			1	1

(blank)	1			1
15		1		1
Knife/Dagger (Other Use)		1		1
Grand Total	1	1	3	5

Recorded Crime - Location Type = School Possession of Bladed Article or Point 23.05.2018 - 31.12.2018 (Athena) OFFENDERS AGE= Under 16	
OUTCOME/ OFFENDERS AGE/ WEAPON DETAILS	2018
UNSOLVED	2
13	2
Razor Blades	2
Grand Total	2

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.