



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

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

18th October 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/06255

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/06255

I write in connection with your request for information received on 27th September. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1: The total number of cyberstalking incidents recorded per calendar year from 2014 – 2019. Please provide an annual breakdown. For 2019, where possible please provide information until the end of September.**
- 2: Where possible, provide detail on each recorded incident (e.g harassment, stalking, stalking involving serious alarm/distress). Please provide annual breakdown as per Q1**
- 3: The number of cyberstalking incidents in which the perpetrator(s) is identified, per calendar year from 2014 – 2019. Please provide annual breakdown as per Q1**
- 4: The number of individuals that have reported cyberstalking offences to your police force, per calendar year from 2014 – 2019. Please provide annual breakdown as per Q1**
- 5: Please provide details relating to the outcome of the perpetrator referenced in Q3 (e.g charge, caution, fixed penalty, resolution). This information should be broken down per calendar year from 2014-Sept 2019 as per Q1.**
- 6: The number of cyberstalking cases that have reached court per calendar year from 2014 – 2019. Please provide annual breakdown as per Q1**
- 7: The number of cyberstalking cases that resulted in a guilty verdict per calendar year from 2014 – 2019. Please provide annual breakdown as per Q1**

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 and the crime recording systems within the Force please see our response on the attached document marked as **Annex A – FOI2019 06255**.

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.

Please note Bedfordshire Police do not hold conviction information and this relates to your questions / points 6 & 7.

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.