



Information Rights
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26th September 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/05039

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/05039

I write in connection with your request for information received on 6th August. I note you seek access to the following information:

For each of the last five financial years and this financial year up until July 9, 2019:

The number of crimes recorded with a domestic abuse marker/flag.

Of these crimes (with the domestic abuse marker/flag),

- a. the number for which a suspect was arrested then released on bail**
- b. the number for which a suspect was arrested then released under investigation (I understand released under investigation came into use in 2017, please provide this data for each financial year it has been in use).**
- c. The number for which a suspect was arrested then detained for court**

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 crime and custody recording systems within the Force please see our response in the table below: -

| | Domestic Flagged Crimes | Domestic Flagged Arrests* | Police Bail | RUI | Charge and Detained**** |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 2014/15 | 4336 | 2592 | 734 | 0 | 139 |
| 2015/16 | 4637 | 2131 | 464 | 0 | 157 |
| 2016/17 | 4500 | 1438 | 424 | 0 | 110 |
| 2017/18** | 5527 | 1632 | 150 | 350 | 151 |
| 2018/19*** | 7148 | 2048 | 293 | 486 | 172 |
| 2019/20 to 31st July 2019 | 2978 | 747 | 187 | 131 | 43 |

- * It is not possible to reliably link crime and arrest data. The arrest data shown is for arrests or custody records (dependant on the recording system in use at the time) that have a domestic marker. A single custody record/arrest may relate to multiple offences, not all of which may domestic related. Each offence may be disposed of in a different way. The flagging of arrests with the domestic marker may not be subject to the same standards as the flagging of crimes on the crime system which goes through extensive quality assurance processes.
- ** Data up to the 23rd May 2018 is counting the initial disposal for each offence only. It is possible for bail to be converted to an RUI or for a person to be charged and detained following a period of bail or RUI. For data post 23rd May 2018, there may be some overlap between the Bail and RUI data. The disposals relate to the offences identified as domestic.
- *** In May 2019 Bedfordshire Police went live with ATHENA. There may be transferred records and other issues which affect the accuracy of the data around this period.
- **** The Custody system in use until May 2018 had a specific disposal for "Charge and Detained". The Custody system in use post 23 May 2018 does not distinguish between "Charge and Bail" and "Charge and Detained"

records. Post 23 May 2018 data is counting distinct custody records that resulted in a charge for a domestic offence that were not subject to court bail.

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

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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.