



Information Rights
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27th September 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/05580

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/05580

I write in connection with your request for information received on 30th August. I note you seek access to the following information:

1) How many domestic abuse victims from the LGBT community have reported abuse more than once from January 2017 to the present or nearest date.

2) How many of the above cases were taken to court?

3) How many domestic abuse victims from the LGBT community reported domestic abuse by partner? from January 2017 to August 2019 or the nearest date?

If within the reasonable cost limit

4) how many of the above cases were taken to court?

5) How many domestic abuse victims from the LGBT community died from domestic abuse?

6) How many LGBT domestic abuse victims were at high risk from their domestic abusive partner? from January 2017 to August 2019 or the nearest date.

If within the reasonable cost limit

7) how many domestic abuse victims not from the LGBT community reported domestic abuse from their partner from January 2017 to August 2019 or the nearest date?

8) How many of the cases above were taken to court

9) If within the reasonable cost limit how many domestic abuse victims reported domestic abuse that were homeless? from January 2017 to August 2019

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 their crime recording systems within the Force please see our response on the attached document marked as **Annex A – FOI2019 05580**. Bedfordshire Police do not hold prosecution data (Q8) and do not centrally record a victim's residential status (Q9).

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 the data has been generated where the relationship of the Victim and the Suspect are the same gender, we do not record the sexual orientation on CMS. There may also be discrepancies where the gender has been recorded incorrectly.

The method above has also been used for the Athena data collated and the Athena data for the sexual orientation is recorded but not consistently.

Bedfordshire Police can confirm that it holds additional information in relation to your request however, I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested. Such information is exempt under the following exemption: -

Section 40(2) – Personal Information

The Section 40 exemption is a class based absolute exemption - This means that the legislators have identified that there would be harm in disclosure and there is no need to evidence this or carry out a public interest test.

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.