



Information Rights
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6th February 2020

Our Ref: FOI2020/00319

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2020/00319

I write in connection with your request for information received on 13th January. I note you seek access to the following information:

How many crime reports in the last five years have been linked to Instagram? Please break this down by calendar year (2015,2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019) and say what the nature of the offence was (eg sexual harassment/ threats of violence/ hate crime)

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 below: -

CMS - Recorded Crimes where INSTAGRAM was mention in the crime text					
Dates between: 1.1.2015 - 23.5.2018					
Crime Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
Burglary Dwelling				2	2
Burglary Other	1	1			2
Criminal Damage	3	1	2	1	7
Other Crime	35	66	98	67	266
Robbery			1	1	2
SSO	4	5	21	7	37
TFMV and Interference			1		1
TOMV	1		1		2
Grand Total	44	73	124	78	319

Athena - Recorded Crimes where INSTAGRAM was mention in the crime text			
Dates between: 23.5.2018 - 31.12.2019			
Crime Group	2018	2019	Grand Total
Criminal Damage	1	2	3
Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	16	26	42
Non Crimes	4	20	24
Other Sexual Offences	25	38	63
Other Theft	5	5	10
Public Order	6	5	11
Rape	2	2	4
Robbery		1	1

Stalking and Harassment	74	258	332
Vehicle Offences	2		2
Violence with Injury	7	4	11
Violence without Injury	6	5	11
Grand Total	148	366	514

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.

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.