



Information Rights
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26th June 2020

Our Ref: FOI2020/03011

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2020/03011

I write in connection with your request for information received on 1st June. I note you seek access to the following information:

Crime data and stop and search data

I would like information on statistics in Bedford in relation to the split between white, black and asians for the year 2019. I would like specifically data on: - a) percentage of arrests
b) conviction ratio
c) custody rates for indictable offences
d) custodial sentence length
e) number/percentage of offenders in prison.

CLARIFICATION REQUESTED: -

Your request reads as below and I have separated to make the points you have requested a little clearer: -

Crime data and stop and search data

I would like information on statistics in Bedford in relation to the split between white, black and Asians for the year 2019. I would like specifically data on: -

- a) percentage of arrests
- b) conviction ratio
- c) custody rates for indictable offences
- d) custodial sentence length
- e) number/percentage of offenders in prison.

Please clarify the following: -

For all parts please state what Identity codes you wish us to consider as not all are just recorded as white, black and Asians, as you can appreciate there are many categories for each group you have identified.

- 1) Part a - Bedfordshire Police would not provide a percentage of arrests only actual data and are you asking for all arrests in 2019? For example how many arrests in 2019 etc.
- 2) Part b, d and e - Bedfordshire Police do not hold conviction ratios, custodial lengths or prison information.
- 3) Part c - please clarify what you mean by 'custody rates' for indictable offences?
Please clarify how you wish us to proceed.

CLARIFICATION REC'D: - Thank you for your reply.

I would like to know how many Black, white, asian, Mixed and other groups were stopped and searched in Bedford in 2019.

How many of these stops and searches led to eventual arrests also split by ethnicity.

I would like actual data for the number of arrests split by the ethnicity of the person arrested. So how many black people were arrested, how many asian, white, mixed and other.

Can I also get data on type of crime and number of people from each ethnic group.

So e.g. if robbery is a category then the number of black, white, asian, mixed and other groups who committed a robbery.

I would like any information You can provide which is similar to what was published in the Statistics on Race and the Criminal Justice System, 2018 Report which can be found below:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/849201/race-cjs-2018-infographic.pdf

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 Performance Team within the Force please see our response in the document attached and marked as **Annex A – FOI2020 03011**.

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.