

19th May 2017

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20170718

REQUEST

This section of the request concerns instances where the police force notifies the Home Office that an individual may not have a legal immigration status.

7. The number of people the police force has notified the Home Office about regarding the legality of their immigration status, since May 2012

8. Of the people referred to in response to question 7, the number who were known to the police because they were (a) witnesses or (b) victims of crime

9. Of the people referred to in response to question 8, the number who were victims of (a) sexual offences or (b) violent offences (e.g battery, assault, GBH, ABH etc)

RESPONSE

I approached our Audit and Governance and Performance Review Units along with the Criminal Justice Team for assistance with your request. While they between them have knowledge regarding recording and notifications, they do not hold this information.

In essence, the SYP formal response is one of 'no information held'.

In the course of the search for information to fulfil your request, I was passed to the Immigration Enforcement team, which is a division of the Home Office. They supplied the following information which may be useful to yourself. I would advise contacting the Home Office directly for further information or more detailed information.

*7. Within Immigration Enforcement a 'Police Enquiry' is defined as a referral from the police where this is some doubt as to an individual's immigration status. From the period 1st May 2012 to 13th May 2017 there have been **2027** such enquiries recorded that geographically match the South Yorkshire Police area (please note that this may include enquiries originating from other forces working within that area – e.g. British Transport Police). (Source: National Operations Database)*

8 & 9. Under section 12 of the Act, the Home Office is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit. The Home Office hold the information which you have requested but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and

Fees) Regulations 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with it. Immigration Enforcement do not record this information in a consistent or readily accessible way. In the majority of cases the information you have requested would be recorded on the Case Information Database notes of the individual who was subject of the enquiry and this would have to be manually retrieved for each individual record and would consequently exceed the cost limit for retrieving the data to reply to the FOI request.