

6 November 2018

**Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20181821**

**REQUEST**

- a) The total number of people arrested for committing a crime on an aeroplane, broken down by airport where the arrest happened.
- b) The nature of reason for **each** arrest made, with as much detail as possible.
- c) The airline responsible for the flight when the crime took place

Please provide data for **both** financial years **2017/18** and **2016/17**.

**REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION**

Due to technical issues transferring to a new system from 5 December 2017, we are presently unable to extract arrest data from 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 onwards. In addition to this, our arrest data will be recorded under the offence title, where the location will be airport. We would then need to review each record to ascertain whether the offence actually took place on an airplane rather than at the airport itself. Depending on the number of returned records which will require review, this could exceed the 18 hour cost threshold and be exempt under Section 12.

In view of the fact that we are unable to provide you with arrest data for some of the timeframe you are requesting, would you like us to review our recorded crimes as an alternative? Please also bear in mind there are similar issues with crimes recorded on an aircraft, where there ***is no crime scene premises type of Aircraft or Aeroplane and the Home Office Counting Rule as follows would apply:***

**Location of Crimes**

**Agreed procedure for dealing with crimes committed in the Air or at Sea**

*Where a crime is reported on an aircraft in flight and it is not clear where that offence occurred it shall be recorded as follows:*

***For internal UK flights:*** the force covering the aircraft's departure location must record the crime. Offences reported to third party forces will be made subject of a crime-related incident and referred for crime recording to the force covering the airport of departure; (Updated July 2016)

***for international flights arriving in the UK:*** classify as a crime related incident but do not record the crime.

***For aircraft on international flights departing the UK:*** the force covering the airport of departure

**CLARIFICATION**

Yes please, I would like you to view your recorded crimes as an alternative.

**RESPONSE**

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Officer for assistance with your request. The CMS system and Connect System is used to record complaints or allegations of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes'.

She conducted a search of the two crime management systems. (CMS - our legacy system which provides data up to 4th December 2017 and our new CONNECT system which records crimes from that date onwards)

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet in response and the following explanation regarding her search criteria:

*I have provided a count of offences by year recorded, Home Office offence Class and Premise type\ MO DESC 3. I have also included the free text house name and premises name field, this will include duplicates due to spelling variations etc.*

*We have had to take a slightly different approach to extracting the data from CONNECT as the data is not recorded in the same format as the legacy system CMS(ii). SYP have changed their central crime management system in December 2017. Therefore data from the new system cannot be used as a direct comparison due to the different ways in which crimes are recorded. However, the data has been given to comply with original request and displayed here to show an outline trend*

South Yorkshire Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any further information relevant to this request, as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 23(5) Information supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies

Section 23 is a class based absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest in this case. Confirming or denying the existence of whether information is held would contravene the constrictions laid out within Section 23 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in that this stipulates a generic bar on disclosure of any information applied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies.