

6 July 2018

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20180924

REQUEST

For the years 2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017...

- 1. How many incidents of burglary were reported to your force?**
- 2. How many crime reports for burglary were raised by your force?**
- 3. How many people were charged or summons for burglary by your force? (if the same individual was charged/summons twice please count them twice)**

RESPONSE

Question 1

I approached our Incident Management System Administrator for assistance with this element of your request. This system records the majority of matters requiring the specific deployment of police resources, whether reported by members of the public or 'happened upon' by officers and staff in the course of their duties.

He has provided the following response and data:

Below yearly totals based on search for incidents where opening incident class is Burglary for the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2017.

2014 - 14371
2015 - 13010
2016 - 14143
2017 - 14004

Questions 2 & 3

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Officer for assistance with questions 2 & 3. 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 and the following explanation of her search criteria:

CMS(ii) data –

I have provided a count of the specified offences recorded on the CMS(ii) crime register between 01-Jan-2014 and 04-Dec-2017. Of this count of offences, I have provided a count where the offender was named, broken down by offender status and outcome.

CONNECT data –

I have provided a count of the specified offences recorded for CONNECT crime between 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Dec-2017. Of this count, I have provided a count of the offence outcome.

For both data sets, I have provided all outcomes but have highlighted the charge and summons data, should you only wish to use these as specifically requested.

The Home Office changed the approach to reviewing outcomes of crimes implemented in South Yorkshire in July 2014, and now a broader framework is now in place. A crime which would have previously been closed as 'undetected' is now given a specific outcome based on the specific circumstances of that crime. However, as requested we have only provided specific outcomes based on the requesters requirements.

In addition, the outcomes CHARGED, SUMMONS and CAUTIONS changed in 2017 and we now specifically record for what offence, the offender was charged i.e. CHARGED is now recorded as either CHARGED WITH OFFENCE RECORDED Or CHARGED WITH AN ALTERNATIVE OFFENCE, therefore the outcomes are applicable depending on the year recorded the offence was recorded.

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.

Please also note the following

Commencing April 2017, the Home Office introduced a change to how offences of Burglary are recorded. The below tables show the home office offence classes prior to and post the amendment -

Offences classes prior April 2017 –

29	AGGRAVATED BURGLARY IN A DWELLING
28A	BURGLARY IN A DWELLING
28B	ATTEMPTED BURGLARY IN A DWELLING
28C	DISTRACTION BURGLARY IN A DWELLING
28D	ATTEMPTED DISTRACTION BURGLARY IN A DWELLING

Offences classes post April 2017 –

28E	BURGLARY- RESIDENTIAL
28F	ATTEMPTED BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL
28G	DISTRACTION BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL
28H	ATTEMPTED DISTRACTION BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL
29A	AGGRAVATED BURGLARY RESIDENTIAL

For further guidance, please refer to the Home Office Counting Rules.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/counting-rules-for-recorded-crime>

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by following the advice contained in the separate notice enclosed with this correspondence:

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire, SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 08456 306060 or 01625 545745
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Lucy Moore

Information Compliance Clerk
South Yorkshire Police
Information Compliance Unit
Professional Standards Department
Unit 20 Sheffield 35A Business Park
Churchill Way
Sheffield
S35 2PY

Please note that police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide information and statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons this forces response to your questions should not be used for the comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.

South Yorkshire Police provides you the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure (copy enclosed). If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Constabulary's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

The South Yorkshire Police in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be

addressed to The Force Solicitor, South Yorkshire Police, Police Headquarters, 5 Carbrook Hall Road, Sheffield, S9 2EG

Appeal Process for Freedom of Information

Using this process will not affect your right to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner. However, it will usually be quicker if matters can be resolved locally using this process.

Who can appeal?

Anyone who has requested information from the Force in writing can appeal within 20 working days from the date of the response provided. If you have requested information and you are not satisfied with the way we have dealt with your request, you can use the appeal process to have it looked at again. If someone who requested information would like to appeal but cannot do so themselves you can appeal on their behalf, but it will help us if you make it clear that you are doing so.

What can I appeal about?

You can appeal about the range, amount and format of information we have sent following a request. You can also appeal about the way a request was handled – for example, the time it took to respond, or the way letters were worded.

How do I appeal?

You can appeal by writing, emailing or faxing your appeal/complaint to the address below. To deal with your appeal as quickly as possible, it will help if you can give us as much information as you can about the request made, such as the reference number, and the reason for your appeal/ complaint.

What happens to my appeal?

Once we have enough details to identify the request you are concerned about, a qualified person, other than the initial decision maker, will deal with the internal review.

How long does it take?

Whatever their conclusion, you will be informed of the result as soon as possible, and in any case within 20 days of submitting your appeal.

If you are still not satisfied, you may then appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Appeal Address

**Information Compliance Unit South Yorkshire Police Professional Standards
Department Unit 20 Sheffield 35A Business Park Churchill Way Sheffield S35 2PY**

Email foi@southyorks.pnn.police.uk