

11th September 2018

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20181449

REQUEST

April 2017 – March 2018

Q1. The total number of race hate crimes recorded by police for the period stated.

Q2. Of the total number of race hate crimes recorded, please provide a breakdown by ethnicity of the victims, including those where ethnic identity was not specified or not recorded. Please ensure the 'Asian' category has a breakdown by Pakistani and Bangladeshi victims.

Q3. Further to question 2, please include in the response a breakdown by sex of the victim; male / female specifically for Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Arab victims.

Q4. The total number of religious hate crimes recorded by police for the period stated.

Q5. Of the total number of religious hate crimes recorded, please provide details of the number of religious hate crimes that were Islamophobic or anti-Muslim in nature.

Q6. Further to question 5, please include in the response a breakdown by sex of the victim; male / female specifically for the Islamophobic or anti-Muslim victims.

Q7. Please confirm if your police force has implemented the 2015 Home Office directive to record anti-Muslim offences as a separate category of hate crime.

CLARIFICATION

Please could you clarify the following point(s): -

South Yorkshire Police has received a number of similar requests to yours in the past.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/hate-crime-stats-ref-20180530/>

FROM THE REQUESTER

Thank you for notifying us of the disclosure log.

We can confirm that we've had a thorough look over your publications in response to previous FOI requests. However, unfortunately none of the documents are suitable to be used as a source for the information we are looking for due to inappropriate date parameters.

Many of the publications answer the FOI requests without a breakdown of months (i.e. number of religiously aggravated hate crime in the year 2017 were x) and those that have they still do not cover the dates we need.

Again, for the FOI we have submitted and the questions we have asked, we either need the figures for the respective questions to be broken down over each calendar month of 2017 and 2018 or between the period April 2017 and March 2018 strictly.

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator 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)

For FOI requests such as this, we access the two separate systems and the retrieval and data extraction varies greatly dependant on the search capabilities and the inputted data. The information you receive therefore may be in two different formats depending on your time parameters, and the data we can provide which will be dependent on the search capabilities of each system. All our systems are designed and used first and foremost for Policing Purposes and have limited search capability.

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet and the following explanation of her search criteria:

CMS(ii) DATA

CMS Racial Data – This is a count of offences recorded on the CMS crime register with the Hate Aggravating factor Racial and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 01-Apr-2017 and 04-Dec-2017. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity.

CMS Religion Data - This is a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) crime register with the Hate Aggravating factor Religion and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 01-Apr-2017 and 04-Dec-2017. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity.

CMS Perceived Religion Data - This is a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) crime register with a Hate Aggravating factor Religion and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 01-Apr-2017 and 04-Dec-2017. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity. I have also provided a breakdown of the Perceived religion aggravating factor.

CONNECT DATA

CONNECT Racial Data – This is a count of offences recorded on CONNECT for crime with the Keyword Hate - Racial and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Mar-2018. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity.

CONNECT Religion Data - This is a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) crime register with the Keyword Hate - Religion and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Mar-2018. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity.

CONNECT- Perceived Religion Data - This is a count of offences recorded on CONNECT for crime with the keyword Hate – Perceived Religion and where the offence was recorded with a victim between dates 01-Apr-2017 and 04-Dec-2017. Of this count, I have provided a breakdown of the victim's gender, ethnicity and self-defined ethnicity. I have also provided a breakdown of the Perceived religion aggravating factor.

Please note – a count of victims may exceed a count of offences as more than one victim may be recorded on any offence.

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.