

30th September 2020

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20202003

REQUEST

Under the freedom of information Act 2000 can I please request this information for each of these financial years: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2021/21 from the start of the financial year 2020 to 10 Sept 2020:

- 1) The number of arrests the force made for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824
- 2) The number of charges the force made for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824
- 3) The number of warnings issued for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824
- 4) The number of fixed penalty notices issued for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824

Please break down the information by the title of the offence and by the financial year.

RESPONSE

On 5th December 2017 South Yorkshire Police implemented a new recording system called Connect which replaced our Custody Handling System (CHS) . Arrest data prior to 5th December 2017 is held on our legacy system (CHS) and latest arrest data is held on our new CONNECT system.

Please see the below link, which will assist you with dates *prior* to 5th December 2017.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/vagrancy-act-ref-20180411/>

A Sergeant in the Custody Performance and Governance Unit has provided the following data which shows arrests and outcomes for each financial year *from* 5th December 2017.

Financial Year	Initial Reason For Arrest	Disposal Description	Count Of Custodies
2017-18	Found on enclosed Premises	Charge	1
		Refused Charge (NFA)	1
2018-19	Begging	Charge	3
	Begging - Persistent	Charge	5
		Community Resolution	1
		Refused Charge (NFA)	1
	Found on enclosed Premises	Charge	1
		Refused Charge (NFA)	3
2019-20	Begging	Charge	2
	Begging - Persistent	Charge	3
		Charge - Postal	1
	Found on enclosed Premises	Refused Charge (NFA)	3

		Reported For Process	1
2020-21	Begging - Persistent	Refused Charge (NFA)	1
	Found on enclosed Premises	Charge	2

We have received similar FOI requests regarding this issue, and a Ticket Processing Manager has advised that this is something that is not dealt with by way of fixed penalty.

Please see the attached link which may be of assistance:-

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/public-spaces-protection-orders-ref-20201999/>