

14th February 2020

**Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20200320**

**REQUEST**

For **each and every** financial year between 2015-16 and 2018-19, please could you provide me with:

1. **The total number of domestic abuse incidents reported to your force versus the total number subsequently recorded as a domestic abuse crime.**
2. **For each domestic abuse crime in Q1, could you specify the gender of the victim as either male, female, transgender, or unknown.**
3. **For the domestic abuse crimes in Q1 involving only male victims, could you specify:**
  - 3a. **Their exact age and not '18-24', for example.**
  - 3b. **The relationship between the victim and the alleged perpetrator (i.e. partner, parent, relative etc)**
  - 3c. **The gender and age of the alleged perpetrator.**
4. **The five most common crimes against a male victim reported to you falling within the domestic abuse marker (i.e. assault, sexual assault, harassment, etc.)**

**CLARIFICATION**

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

Crime Management System - Q1 (crime element) we can supply a count of Domestic Offences/Crimes and Q2 through to Q4 we can also supply from our Crime Systems.

For the Incident element of Q1 - 'Incidents' are recorded on our Incident Management System, a system which records matters and occurrences generally reported in the first instance by members of the public. It is important when responding that we differentiate between an 'incident' and a 'crime'. For example a member of the public may well call with details of a matter which they feel we should be aware of, this may firstly be recorded as an incident and only after further investigation does it result in a recorded 'crime'. Not all incidents will therefore result in a recorded crime. It is not possible to track incidents into Crimes. For example multiple people may call us to report an incident which may or may not become a crime or separately a Crime may be discovered while investigating another matter therefore wouldn't be on the Incident Management System.

**FROM THE REQUESTER**

**Could you provide the number of recorded incidents of this type and separately the number of recorded crimes, please?**

**I will bear in mind what you said when analysing the results provided.**

**RESPONSE**

I firstly approached the Administrator of the Incident Management Systems. They have provided the Incident count of calls received into our Communications centre and logged on the system of which a Domestic Qualifier was applied.

As advised in the clarification a logged incident may not become a crime and one incident may be called in by numerous people. Separately a Domestic Crime may be discovered while investigating another matter.

*Based on the Domestic qualifier –*

*2015-2016 – 23,459*

*2018-2019 – 23,711*

For the other parts of your request:

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:

*Please see the attached data and below explanation.*

#### **CMS(ii) Crime -**

*I have included a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) Crime Register between 01-Apr-2015 and 04-Dec-2017 recorded with a Domestic Incident Flag and a victim. Of this count of offences, I have included a breakdown of the victims by Gender and Age at the time of offence, a breakdown of the Victim's relationship to the suspect and a breakdown of offences where the victim is Male by volume.*

#### **CONNECT crime –**

*I have included a count of offences recorded for CONNECT Crime between 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Mar-2019, where the offence was recorded with a victim and a Domestic Abuse Keyword. Of this count of offences, I have included a breakdown of the victims by Gender and Age at the time of offence and a breakdown of offences where the victim is Male by volume.*

*No CONNECT Data has been included for suspects due to the ongoing data quality and accuracy issues. As previously stated, PMU has taken the decision that we are currently unable to provide data regarding suspects i.e. outcomes, ages, gender, relationship etc.*

*In addition, we cannot display the relationship of the victim to the suspect as CONNECT only facilitates the recording of the suspect to victim relationship, therefore I cannot provide this data for CONNECT.*

*Please note –*

- *I have identified offences that are to be referred to the relevant units for review due to data recording/quality issues. Some offences have been recorded with the relationship status reversed (CMS) and some victims are under the age of 16 (CMS & CONNECT) and therefore are not correctly recorded in line with the below Domestic Abuse definition. I have highlighted these within the sheet.*
- *Some offences may be recorded with more than one victim, therefore we expect a count of victims to exceed a count of offences.*
- *The data is extracted from live crime systems, therefore the data may differ from previous requests.*
- *Transgender is not currently an option within the gender selection table of CMS(ii) and CONNECT. However, we do identify and record offences in line with Home Office requirements for the reporting of Hate Crime, identified by the recording of Transgender Indicator.*

*For reference the below, is the Domestic Abuse Definition –*

*The UK government's definition of domestic violence is 'any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, and emotional.'*

*Domestic abuse can take different forms, including:*

- ***physical abuse***
- ***sexual abuse***
- ***financial abuse***
- ***coercive control / emotional abuse***
- ***digital / online abuse***
- ***honour-based violence***