

8th July 2021

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20211290

REQUEST

Please could you provide me with a list of unsolved murders which have taken place within the force area between 1960 and 2020?

Please include for each case;

- 1. the name of the victim*
- 2. the victims age*
- 3. the date of offence*
- 4. the location of offence*
- 5. a brief description of the offence*
- 6. Whether any arrests have ever been made in connection with the offence basically need the updated version of this [response](#), in a CSV format and with the additional information above.*

RESPONSE

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a.states that fact,
- b.specifies the exemption in question and
- c.states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

I approached the Major Incident Review Team (MIRT) for assistance with this request to update the previously released document.

The MIRT they are currently reviewing all cases such as this. The process will take a number of months to read case files and papers and review. To update the list bringing it up to date would require a full review of each case on the list plus others that may fit the criteria of your request. Until we review each case, we will not know whether further work is required. The case will be described as detected but would still require review. There is no closing report to give a definitive answer. Further the term “undetected” could refer to a suspect found not guilty at court, insufficient evidence, suspect at large, multiple offenders etc.

In short , the list of cases requiring review does not necessarily equate with the list of cases that we keep for review purposes. Without a full review of every case plus the data on the previously released list dated 2018, it is impossible to locate, retrieve and extract the data to fit the criteria of your request under the 18hr limit allowed by the FOI Act.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 provide that the cost limit for non-central government public authorities is £450. This must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour, providing an effective time limit of 18 hours.

Guidance from the Information Commissioner to public authorities is that where one part of a request is reasonably estimated to exceed the appropriate limit then the authority is not obliged to consider or comply with the remainder of the request up to the point at which the appropriate limit has been reached. Please note point 30 of the below link:-

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf