



Freedom of Information Response

Keywords: Occupation, Uber Taxi Driver, MP, Politicians, Students, Footballers

Essex Police are unable to provide data based on the occupation of the victim or offender as this cannot be accurately extracted. This is due to the way in which this information is recorded/held within Athena and extracted within Business Objects. In addition, the Occupation Field is not always completed as this is not a Mandatory Field.

In an effort to assist, Essex Police could undertake keyword searches on the Initial Modus Operandi (MO) Field for example 'UBER' and 'DRIVER'. However, it should be noted that any keyword searches would be highly inaccurate/misleading and any results would not necessarily answer the submission as our systems are not designed for this requirement.

FOI Reference Number and Title: 13742 Uber Taxi Driver Statistics

Date of Disclosure: 14.10.2019 **Information correct as of:** 29.01.2020

Disclosure and Exemptions: (Full/Partial/Refused): **Refused, Section 12(1) and 17(1)**

Information Requested:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 may I request figures for the number of crimes reported in relation to Uber taxi drivers for 2018, 2017 and 2016. May I please have the figures broken down by type of crime and the calendar year.

Response:

Having completed enquiries within Essex Police in respect of Section 1(1)(a), Essex Police does hold information relating to your request, however, the obligation of Section 1(1)(b) cannot be met as Essex Police does not hold all the information requested in a format that allows it to be retrieved within the time and cost limits of FOI.

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the FOIA, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work). The costs criteria relates to *a request in its entirety*, which means that if we cannot retrieve all of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA states that a public authority is not obliged to:

“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”

The following explanation outlines the difficulty Essex Police has in answering your request:

Essex Police are unable to accurately extract the level of detail in relation to the number of crimes reported in relation to Uber taxi drivers for the requested period as there is a known system issue regarding the current occupation of individuals. Essex Police are unable to provide crime data by occupation due to system constraints. Occupations are not currently returned in an accurate format and in addition the occupation at the time of the crime cannot be identified if the occupation has changed. Essex Police systems are designed primarily for the management of individual cases and not primarily for the production of statistical information. This request would entail manually extracting the requested data and reviewing each record one by one to establish the occupation at that point in time. This process would exceed the time and cost limits under the FOIA and would also qualify as the creation of data as the results cannot be processed by means of purely sorting or filtering data sources or running a database query tool. There is no requirement under the act to create data purely to answer FOI requests.

Consequently, and to this extent, Essex Police are exempt from the duty to provide information you have requested under the provisions of Section 12(1) of the FOIA. Therefore, and in accordance with Section 17(1) of the FOIA, this communication must act as a refusal notice to provide all of the information that could be interpreted as being captured by this part of your request.

Section 16(1) of the FOIA provides that a public authority is required to provide advice and assistance, Essex Police can confirm that we can provide data based on the Home Office Counting Rules if of use. These offences are more likely to be extracted from our systems together with outcomes and age/gender if required. Please see below link:

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

Related Documents: N/A

FOI Reference Number and Title: 13164 Assaults on Politicians

Date of Disclosure: 16/05/2019 **Information correct as of:** 29/01/2020

Disclosure and Exemptions: (Full/Partial/Refused): **Refused, Section 12(1) and 17(1)**

Information Requested:

I am sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act to ask for the following information:

I am trying to determine how many politicians have been physically assaulted in your police force area in the last few years. I appreciate that this is probably not something that is routinely recorded separately so I have put together the below FOI. If this is something that you have recorded figures for then do please send me those numbers for the years outlined below.

- 1) Please can you tell me in each of the following reported offences recorded in your police force area was the victim a politician (councillor, MP, MEP, mayor) in the calendar years:
 - a. 2015
 - b. 2016
 - c. 2017
 - d. 2018

For each of the following offences:

- Common Assault
- Assault occasioning Actual Bodily Harm
- Unlawful wounding/inflicting grievous bodily harm
- Attempted Wounding and Attempted GBH
- Wounding/causing GBH with intent
- Throwing corrosive fluid on a person
- Attempted murder

- 2) If Q1 is proving difficult to answer within the cost limit please undertake a keyword search for each of the reports of the above offences for the terms: "politician", "MP", "councillor", "MEP", "mayor", "politics" in each of the years in question.

Response:

Essex Police has made enquiries within the force, however, Essex Police is unable to comply with Section 1(1)(a) by virtue of exemption Section 12(2).

Section 12 of the FOIA states that a public authority is not obliged to:

- 1) *“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”*
- 2) ***Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of Section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.***

The following explanation outlines the difficulty Essex Police has in answering your request:

Essex Police are unable to accurately extract the level of detail in relation to how many politicians have been physically assaulted in the Essex Police Force area as there is a known system issue regarding the current occupation of individuals. Essex Police are unable to provide crime data by occupation due to system constraints. Occupations are not currently returned in an accurate format and in addition the occupation at the time of the crime cannot be identified if the occupation has changed. Therefore, we would not be able to tell if the individual was politician when they were a victim of one of these offences. There is also no field to indicate if the victim was politician, councillor, MP, MEP or mayor, etc. Essex Police systems are designed primarily for the management of individual cases and not primarily for the production of statistical information. This request would entail manually extracting the data in relation to the requested offences and reviewing each record one by one to establish if it meets one of the requested groups as there is currently no search engine available. This process would exceed the time and cost limits under the FOIA and would also qualify as the creation of data as the results cannot be processed by means of purely sorting or filtering data sources or running a database query tool. There is no requirement under the act to create data purely to answer FOI requests.

Consequently, and to this extent, Essex Police are exempt from the duty to provide information you have requested under the provisions of Section 12(2) of the FOIA.

Therefore, and in accordance with Section 17(1) of the FOIA, this communication must act as a refusal notice to provide all of the information that could be interpreted as being captured by this part of your request.

Section 16(1) of the FOIA provides that a public authority is required to provide advice and assistance, Essex Police can confirm that we can provide data based on the Home Office Counting Rules regarding vandalism, verbal and physical abuse offences if of use. These offences are more likely to be extracted from our systems together with outcomes if required. Please see below link:

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

Related Documents: N/A

FOI Reference Number and Title: 13497 Sexual Violence on Students

Date of Disclosure: 13.08.2019 **Information correct as of:** 29.01.2020

Disclosure and Exemptions: (Full/Partial/Refused): **Refused, Section 12(1) and 17(1)**

Information Requested:

For the last five years, please provide the following information.

Please provide the answers separately for each year.

How many reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment were there?

Of these how many of the victims were students?

What were the outcomes of the report?

Response:

Having completed enquiries within Essex Police in respect of Section 1(1)(a), Essex Police does hold information relating to your request, however, the obligation of Section 1(1)(b) cannot be met as Essex Police does not hold all the information requested in a format that allows it to be retrieved within the time and cost limits of FOI.

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the FOIA, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work). The costs criteria relates to a *request in its entirety*, which means that if we cannot retrieve all of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA states that a public authority is not obliged to:

“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”

The following explanation outlines the difficulty Essex Police has in answering your request:

Essex Police are unable to accurately extract the level of detail in relation to how many reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment where the victim's occupation was a student as there is a known system issue regarding the current occupation of individuals. Essex Police are unable to provide crime data by occupation due to system constraints. Occupations are not currently returned in an accurate format and in addition the occupation at the time of the crime cannot be identified if the occupation has changed. Therefore, we would not be able to tell if the individual was a student when they were a victim for one of these offences. There is also no field to indicate if the victim was a student. Essex Police systems are designed primarily for the management of individual cases and not primarily for the production of statistical information. This request would entail manually extracting the requested data in relation to offences for sexual assault and sexual harassment and reviewing each record one by one as there is currently no search engine available. This process would exceed the time and cost limits under the FOIA and would also qualify as the creation of data as the results cannot be processed by means of purely sorting or filtering data sources or running a database query tool. There is no requirement under the act to create data purely to answer FOI requests.

Consequently, and to this extent, Essex Police are exempt from the duty to provide information you have requested under the provisions of Section 12(1) of the FOIA. Therefore, and in accordance with Section 17(1) of the FOIA, this communication must act as a refusal notice to provide all of the information that could be interpreted as being captured by this part of your request.

Section 16(1) of the FOIA provides that a public authority is required to provide advice and assistance, Essex Police can confirm that we can provide data based on the Home Office Counting Rules regarding offences of sexual assault and sexual harassment, if of use. These offences are more likely to be extracted from our systems together with outcomes and age/gender if required. Please see below link:

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

Related Documents: N/A

FOI Reference Number and Title: 13162 Sexual Assault & Footballers

Date of Disclosure: 15.05.2020 **Information correct as of:** 29.01.2020

Disclosure and Exemptions: (Full/Partial/Refused): **Refused, Section 12(1) and 17(1)**

Information Requested:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

1. How many footballers who play in a professional league were reported for rape in 2018?
2. How many footballers who play in a professional league were reported for sexual assault in 2018
3. How many footballers who play in a professional league were charged with rape in 2018?
4. How many footballers who play in a professional league were charged with sexual assault in 2018?

Please provide the data broken down into calendar years. Please provide the age of each suspect.

By professional football league I mean EFL league two and above.

Response:

Essex Police has made enquiries within the force, however, Essex Police is unable to comply with Section 1(1)(a) by virtue of exemption Section 12(2).

Section 12 of the FOIA states that a public authority is not obliged to:

- 1) *“...comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”*
- 2) ***Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of Section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.***

The following explanation outlines the difficulty Essex Police has in answering your request:

Essex Police are unable to accurately extract the level of detail in relation to how many Footballers have been reported/charged for rape or sexual assault offences as there is a known system issue regarding the current occupation of individuals. Essex Police are unable to provide crime data by occupation due to system constraints. Occupations are not currently returned in an accurate format and in addition the occupation at the time of the crime cannot be identified if the occupation has changed. Therefore, we would not be able to tell if the individual was a Football Player when they were an offender for one of these offences. There is also no field to indicate if the offender was a Football Player. Essex Police systems are designed primarily for the management of individual cases and not primarily for the production of statistical information. This request would entail manually extracting the requested data in relation to rape or sexual assault offences and reviewing each record one by one as there is currently no search engine available. This process would exceed the time and cost limits under the FOIA and would also qualify as the creation of data as the results cannot be processed by means of purely sorting or filtering data sources or running a database query tool. There is no requirement under the act to create data purely to answer FOI requests.

Consequently, and to this extent, Essex Police are exempt from the duty to provide information you have requested under the provisions of Section 12(2) of the FOIA.

Therefore, and in accordance with Section 17(1) of the FOIA, this communication must act as a refusal notice to provide all of the information that could be interpreted as being captured by this part of your request.

Section 16(1) of the FOIA provides that a public authority is required to provide advice and assistance, Essex Police can confirm that we can provide data based on the Home Office Counting Rules regarding rape or sexual assault offences if of use. These offences are more likely to be extracted from our systems together with outcomes if required. Please see below link:

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

Related Documents: N/A