

24 April 2019

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20190687

REQUEST

I'd like to request a comprehensive set of data on revenge porn offences over the last 4 full calendar years.

Specifically I'd like to receive:

A) For the offence of “disclose private sexual photographs and films with intent to cause distress”; for each of the calendar years from 2015 to 2018; further broken down by:

Sheet 1: AREA – The area in which the offence occurred, which may be categorized depending on the police force by: Area, or Borough, or Operational Command Unit

Sheet 2: SELF DEFINED ETHNICITY OF SUSPECT – e.g. A1: Asian – Indian; A2: Asian – Pakistani

Sheet 3: SELF DEFINED ETHNICITY OF VICTIM – as above

Sheet 4: GENDER OF SUSPECT – the gender of the suspect, usually Female, Male or Unknown/unrecorded

Sheet 5: GENDER OF VICTIM – as above

Sheet 6: AGE GROUP – the age or age group of the suspect and victim: 0-17, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+, Unknown (NB for under-18s the offences of “distributing indecent images of children” or “abuse of children through sexual exploitation”, or similar apply; each of the records will likely have to be individually checked to determine if they have been correctly classified)

Sheet 7: OUTCOME - the expanded outcomes list introduced by the Home Office to most forces in April 2014 (e.g. number of charges or conviction)

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Officer 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)

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet in response and the following explanation regarding her search criteria:

CMS(II) Data -

I have included a count of the offence DISCLOSE PRIVATE SEXUAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND FILMS WITH INTENT TO CAUSE DISTRESS recorded on the CMS(ii) Crime register between 01-Apr-2015 (date the offence was introduced) and 04-Dec-2017. I have also included a breakdown of the offence outcome. This is the offence outcome and not a count of offenders.

I have also included a breakdown of both the victim and offender's gender, age at the time of the offence and self-defined ethnicity. Please be advised – some offences may be recorded with more than one offender or currently offender details maybe unknown.

CONENCT Data -

I have included a count of the offence DISCLOSE PRIVATE SEXUAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND FILMS WITH INTENT TO CAUSE DISTRESS recorded on for CONNECT crime between 04-Dec-2017 and 31-Dec-2018. I have also included a breakdown of the offence outcome. This is the offence outcome and not a count of offenders.

I have also included a breakdown of both the victim and offender's gender, age at the time of the offence and self-defined ethnicity.

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.

Please note –

I have not been able to provide data regarding offenders in CONNECT due to ongoing issues. PMU has taken the decision that we are unable to provide data regarding suspects i.e. outcomes, ages, gender etc. due to data quality and accuracy issues, therefore I cannot currently fulfil this request for CONNECT.