16 April 2019

<u>Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20190652</u>

<u>REQUEST</u>

Please could you provide us with the total number of violent crimes (including but not limited to: common assault, robbery, sexual offences, use of an offensive weapon, hate crime, knife crime, arson) which occurred in pharmacy or chemist retail premises;
- 1 January – 31 December 2016
- 1 January – 31 December 2017
- 1 January – 31 December 2018

If the information is available, we would also like to know:
- how the crime was classified/the nature of the crime,
- when the incident occurred,
- if any weapons were used, what they were,
- any products/items targeted if a robbery occurred,
- whether injury was caused, and
- whether any suspects were arrested or cautioned in relation to the crime.

<u>RESPONSE</u>

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 specified offences recorded on the CMS(II) Crime Register where the offence has been recorded with the crime scene premises type of CHEMIST / TOILETRIES SHOP, where the offence was recorded between 01-Jan-2016 and 04-Dec-2017. Of the offence count, I have included a breakdown of the offence outcome. If the offence was recorded with a victim, then I have provided the victims injury. If a weapon was used then, I have provided a breakdown of the weapon type and if the offence was Robbery, I have provided details of the Property stolen.

CONNECT Data -

I have included a count of the specified offences recorded for CONNECT Crime where the offence has been recorded with the Premise type is Chemist or MO Desc 3 is Chemist, where the offence was recorded between 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Dec-2018. Of the offence

count, I have included a breakdown of the offence outcome. If the offence was recorded with a victim, then I have provided a breakdown of the Injury was sustained. I have not provided the injury details as this is a free text field within CONNECT. No weapon types, were recorded on any offences however the Property class and MO desc fields are not a mandated requirement for CONNECT. No offences of Robbery were recorded between these dates.

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.