

7 September 2018

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20181537

REQUEST

I would like to receive information regarding so-called 'pop up brothels'.

- How many properties has this force investigated in relation to complaints of alleged sex work in the past three years?

- How many of these reports turned out to be substantiated, i.e. how many properties were proven to have been used as a place of temporary sex work?

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 has provided the following commentary regarding her search criteria together with the outcome of her search.

The only offences relating to 'Brothels' which are Home Office Crime Recordable are -

Keeping a brothel for prostitution & Allowing child or young person to be in a brothel.

However, the remaining offences are not crime recordable and therefore not recorded on crime management systems. The circumstances of these offences would then have to be reviewed to establish if relevant to the request.

I have searched for these offences on both CMS(ii) and CONNECT –

2 offences were recorded for keeping a brothel for prostitution in the last 3 years.

0 offences of Allowing child or young person to be in a brothel.

However, I am unable to comment on whether these were 'pop up' as I am uncertain of what constitutes a 'pop-up' scenario and the potential time-frames involved.