

29th April 2019

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20190816

REQUEST

- 1) ***How many missing persons incidents have been reported to the force in the last three years? For this and all questions in point 2, please break down the figures by financial year: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and the following age ranges: 0-17, 18-35, 36+***
- 2) ***Out of those:***
 - i. ***How many have been solved? Please give a further breakdown of the number with those found dead or alive.***
 - ii. ***How many still remain open or active? Please give a further breakdown of the number with gender, ages and dates (month/year) of when they were first reported missing.***
 - iii. ***How many of all the missing person cases were highlighted as being at risk of:***
 - a. ***Child sexual exploitation***
 - b. ***Abuse***
 - c. ***Trafficking***
 - d. ***Mental health concerns***
 - iv. ***How many of all the missing person cases resulted in murder investigations?***

As stated previously, please break down figures for all the above questions by financial year: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and the following age ranges: 0-17, 18-35, 36+

- 3) ***Which are the five longest running unsolved missing persons inquiries on record? Please provide the following details for each one: names, ages and dates of when they were first reported missing.***
- 4) ***Which are the five longest running closed missing persons cases on record? Please provide the following details for each one: names, ages and dates of when they were first reported missing, date of when the case closed, whether the person was found dead or alive or if no body was recovered.***

CLARIFICATION

Q2 – to get the level of detail of individual cases would require a manual check of each record as the Misper System doesn't break data down to the level you request. This would exceed the 18hr rule as for the most recent 2 year period alone there are over 8000 records of missing or absent people . We can retrieve a count for the time period specified with ages and open/closed.

Would that be useful for your research.

Q3 & 4 – We are not required to calculate data/information to facilitate requests, the FOI act relates to recorded data only. This again would require a manual check of each record to calculate.

FROM THE REQUESTER

Thank you for your email. As per your feedback and further to a discussion, I would like to refine my original request to as follows:

- 1) ***How many missing persons incidents have been reported to the force in the last three years? For this and all questions in point 2, please break down the***

figures by financial year: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and the following age ranges: 0-17, 18-35, 36+

2) Out of those:

- i. How many have been solved?**
- ii. How many still remain open or active?**

As stated previously, please break down figures for all the above questions by financial year: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 and the following age ranges: 0-17, 18-35, 36+

RESPONSE

I approached our Performance & Governance Unit for assistance with your request. The Administrator has provided the following data and explanation of her search criteria.

Please see attached figures from MISPER system. I have provided the data by age split as produced from the statistics section in MISPER – these are set by the system.

I have provided totals for closed reports for each financial year. I cannot provide this split by age group for these without going into each report.

Note that these are reports from MISPER including those classified as Missing and Absent. Data provide for financial years 1 April – 31 March

Missing Reports

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>2016/17</i>	<i>2017/18</i>	<i>2018/19</i>
<i>0 - 4</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>5-8</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>9-11</i>	<i>235</i>	<i>223</i>	<i>197</i>
<i>12-14</i>	<i>1987</i>	<i>2041</i>	<i>1914</i>
<i>15 - 17</i>	<i>2925</i>	<i>3830</i>	<i>3145</i>
<i>18 - 21</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>503</i>	<i>452</i>
<i>22 - 39</i>	<i>1390</i>	<i>1501</i>	<i>1597</i>
<i>40 - 59</i>	<i>736</i>	<i>839</i>	<i>783</i>
<i>60 - 79</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>297</i>	<i>291</i>
<i>80 +</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>118</i>
<i>Unknown</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>8146</i>	<i>9497</i>	<i>8592</i>

**Missing Persons Reports - includes Missing and Absent*

**Includes repeat missing persons*

Closed Missing reports

	<i>2016/17</i>	<i>2017/18</i>	<i>2018/19</i>
<i>Closed reports</i>	<i>8157</i>	<i>9486</i>	<i>8566</i>

**There are reports awaiting closure that have not been included on these totals*