12th December 2018

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20182164

REQUEST

> *By year, or the last ten years [or five?], and up to 15:11.18, please provide the number of "hare coursing" incidents for South Yorkshire Police.*
>
> *This should be hare coursing offences contrary to part 1 section 5 of the Hunting Act 2004. If your force does not record in this manner, please provide information gathered from a free text search of your crime recording system.*
>
> *For each, please provide the full-text description of the incident.*

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator 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'.

Offences recorded under the Hunting Act 2004 are not crime recordable and therefore not recorded on the Crime Management Systems.

To try and give you some data to fulfil your request I also contacted our Administrator for the Incident Management System

This system records the majority of calls to South Yorkshire Police requiring the specific deployment of police resources, whether reported by members of the public via 999 or 101 or 'happened upon' by officers and staff in the course of their duties. Each record is a log of events as the incident progresses or unfolds, with very few search fields to extract any meaningful data.

As there is no generic incident title that meets the criteria of your request, our administrator has searched for incidents where the keyword %hare cours% is mentioned in the free text box over the period 1st Jan 2008 to 1st Jan 2019. This returned 252 incidents.

From the incident records provided by the administrator I have checked each one, to ascertain which ones are pertinent to your request.   Please see the attached spreadsheet which contains details of the 185 incidents which had the words present. This is not necessarily because it was happening, in many cases it is because that is believed to be the situation.