

## Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20160475

### REQUEST

*I would be very grateful if you could supply the following information for each of the years: 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015.*

*1) The total number of cases investigated by the force in which a knife was allegedly used as a weapon.*

*2) The total in 1) in which the alleged offender was under the age of 18.*

### RESPONSE

I contacted our Crime Management System (CMS) Administrator for assistance with your request. Following a search of the system, she has provided me with the enclosed information and the following explanation of her search criteria:

Offence count tab –

A count of all offences recorded on the CMS crime register between 2010 and 2015, where a weapon is recorded in accordance with the Home Office Definition of a Knife/Sharp Instrument, where the weapon has been recorded as **Used**, regardless of the outcome status of the offence and whether a suspect or accused offender is recorded.

Offender Count-

Of the offence count above, I have included a count of **Accused** offenders, who were under 18 at the time the offence was committed.

Please note - offences are recorded in accordance with the Home Office Counting Rules and the Principal crime rule may be applied in accordance with the below -

- **The Principal Crime Rule -  
IF THE SEQUENCE OF CRIMES IN AN INCIDENT, OR A COMPLEX CRIME, CONTAINS MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF CRIME, THEN COUNT THE MOST SERIOUS CRIME.**