

18th November 2020

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20202259

REQUEST

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like the following information:

I would like to know the number of reported assaults on police officers for every month from January 2019 to the most recent month for which records are available.

I would like the information presented as follows:

January 2019: XX

February 2019: XX

March 2019: XX

etc...

CLARIFICATION

South Yorkshire Police has received a number of similar requests to yours in the past

You will note from the links below that we can supply details of injuries an officer has received from an assault or we can supply Crime Stats of officers assaulted from our Crime Management system but this is reliant on an officer's occupation being inputted in the first instance.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/officer-assaults-ref-20191985/>

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/officer-injury-taser-data-ref-20182097/>

FROM THE REQUESTER

Thank you for your email requesting clarification.

I have consulted both links suggested. The second link which provided crime stats of officers assaulted from the Crime Management System is the data I'm looking for. Unfortunately, the data provided only goes up to 2018. I would like this same data for 2019 and 2020, if it is available.

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator for assistance with your request. The Connect System is used to record complaints or allegations of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes'.

All our systems are designed and used first and foremost for Policing Purposes and have limited search capability.

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet and the following explanation of her search criteria:

Please see the attached data and below explanation.

I have included a count of the specified offences where the Person Role is Victim and the Occupation 2 is Police Service, where the offence was recorded for CONNECT Crime between 01-Jan-2019 and 31-Oct-2020.

This data only includes the Occupation 2 – ‘Police Service’ and does not include ‘Police Service Civilian Employee’.

The Occupation Groups 1 & 2 (Occupation 1 – Group, Occupation 2 Sub Group) are not a mandated requirement therefore data accuracy is reliant on the occupation being recorded.

I haven’t included the Latest Occupation flag as in some cases this is flagged as both Yes and No so without manual review we cannot determine if this is the officers current occupation. In addition, each offence would have to be reviewed at record level to establish if the officer was in the execution of their duties at the time of the offence and if the Latest Occupation Flag has been correctly recorded.

I have only included offences recorded under the Home Office Offence Group – Violence Against the Person.