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19th March 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/00899

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/00899**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 19th February. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. How many offences involving knives or bladed instruments were recorded between 1 January 2018 and 18 February 2018?
2. Please list the names, gender and ages (if known) of any victims of homicide involving knives or bladed instruments during the above period.
3. Please state the overall number of victims, of any severity of injury, of knives or bladed instruments during that period.
4. Please group the victims in question 3 into age ranges (12 and under, 13 to 16, 17 to 19, 20 to 24, 25 to 29, 30 to 34, 35 to 39 and 40 and over) and gender.

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

Following enquiries within the Constabulary please see our response below.

**Response**

**Q1** – Please see the below table detailing the information requested.

Recorded Month	Number of Offences
Jan-18	143
Feb-18*	74
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>217</b>

\*Up to 18<sup>th</sup> February

**Q2** – This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act, Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means

Section 21 provides that where information is available to you from another source we do not have to provide further copies.

The information you have requested is publicly available on the Hertfordshire Constabulary website at the following link:

<https://www.hertfordshiremercury.co.uk/news/hertfordshire-news/welwyn-garden-city-murder-victim-1135914>

**Q3** – 148 victims linked to the 217 offences

**Q4** – Please see the below table detailing the information requested.

Recorded Month	Female	Male	Unknown	Grand Total
Jan-18	32	64	2	98
Feb-18*	18	31	1	50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>148</b>

Age Group Breakdown:

Recorded Month	12 and less	13 to 16	17 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 and over	N/A	Grand Total
Jan-18	2	8	12	8	11	5	7	34	11	98
Feb-18*	1	6	4	5	2	12	2	15	3	50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>148</b>

Combined Age Group and Gender breakdown:

	Jan	Feb*	Grand Total
<b>Female</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>50</b>
12 and under	0	1	1
13 to 16	0	1	1
17 to 19	5	1	6
20 to 24	0	3	3
25 to 29	4	0	4
30 to 34	2	5	7
35 to 39	5	0	5
40 and over	12	6	18
N/A	4	1	5
<b>Male</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>95</b>
12 and Under	2	0	2
13 to 16	8	5	13
17 to 19	7	3	10
20 to 24	8	2	10
25 to 29	7	2	9
30 to 34	3	6	9
35 to 39	2	2	4
40 and over	22	9	31
N/A	5	2	7
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
30 to 34	0	1	1
N/A	2	0	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>148</b>

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

James Hodson  
Information Rights

Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Hertfordshire Constabulary if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.