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Our Ref: FOI2018/01332

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/01332

I write in connection with your request for information received on 12th March. I note you seek access to the following information:

With reference to S67 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 which serves to insert a new section 15A into the Sexual Offences Act 2003 making it illegal from last year for an adult to send a sexual message to a child:

- 1) How many times a man has been arrested under this law?
- 2) How many times a woman has been arrested under this law?
- 3) How many times a man has been convicted and what sentence did he receive?
- 4) How many times a woman has been convicted and what sentence did she receive?
- 6) What method of communication was used in each instance? ie. phone, Facebook, xbox etc

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 – Please see the below table detailing the information you have requested.

Platform	Total
Facebook (inc Messenger)	9
Instagram	1
Various / Unspecified	4

There have been **17** males arrested under this law during this period – **11** of these Arrests were subsequently formally linked to **14** offences of Sexual Communication with a Child.

There have been **No** Females arrested under this law during this period.

Further to these arrests there has been **1** Charge to date, **1** crime has been finalised as No Further Action and **12** are still Under Investigation / Police Bail.

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.