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Our Ref: FOI2018/03887

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/03887

I write in connection with your request for information received on 17th July. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am just emailing with regards to some figures that I wish to request under the freedom of Information Act. I understand that I should receive these figures within 20 working days.

I am looking to receive the following information

- 1) How many complaints have been made to your force regarding domestic abuse cases, where the victim is a live-in domestic worker (such as an au pair or housekeeper) over the past five years. I would like this information broken down by calendar year.**
- 2) Of those in question one, how many of the victims were UK nationals - broken down by calendar year**
- 3) Of those in question one, how many of the victims were EU internationals - broken down by calendar year**
- 4) Of those in question one, how many of the victims were non-EU internationals - broken down by year.**
- 5) Of the cases reported in question one - in how many cases was the accused a UK National - broken down by year**
- 6) Of the cases reported in question one - in how many cases was an arrest made and charges brought against the alleged perpetrator - broken down by year**
- 7) Of those cases reported in question six - in how many cases was a guilty verdict found in a court of law - broken down by year**

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 - The Home Office definition of Domestic Abuses is as follows:

“Domestic violence and abuse: new definition

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is:

any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual

- financial
- emotional”

The parties involved in DA need to be intimate partners or family members – this is unlikely to cover domestic workers in situations as prescribed by the request. If we were to ascertain that a victim of DA crimes happened to have an occupation listed similar to those described, this would be unlikely to have a bearing on the offence!

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-violence-and-abuse#domestic-violence-and-abuse-new-definition>

Domestic Abuse does not cover all abuse in a domestic setting – if the victim or perpetrator is employer/employee. Accordingly I have determined that the information to which you seek is not held by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

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
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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.