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Our Ref: FOI2018/00381

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/00381

I write in connection with your request for information received on 23rd January. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. For the months of November and December 2017 how many crimes were logged by your force where a machete was recorded as being an element in the offence? [Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the words "machete" or variants of the spelling to include "machette" and "machetes".
2. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Q.1 that are 'linked' to machete/s by its mention in the MO.
3. Taking the month of December 2017 please provide me with copies of the first 5 MOs that mention machetes. [Note: To avoid falling into an exemption I am content for names, ages, geography or any other personal detail to be redacted].
4. For the months of November and December 2017 how many crimes were logged by your force where acid was recorded as being an element in the offence? [Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the words "acid" or "acid-attack".
5. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Q.4 that are 'linked' to acid and acid attacks by its mention in the MO.
6. Taking the month of December 2017 please provide me with copies of the first 5 MOs that mention acid. [Note: To avoid falling into an exemption I am content for names, ages, geography or any other personal detail to be redacted].

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, 2 and 3 – Please see the below table detailing the information you have requested.

Date	Location	Standard Offence	MO
NOV 2017	HITCHIN	WEAPON – HAVE OFFENSIVE WEAPON IN PUBLIC	MACHETE LOCATED IN VEHICLE ALONG WITH DRUGS
NOV 2017	HATFIELD	P.ORDER – THREAT, A'SVE, INSULT WD/BEHAV PROVOKE VI	OFFENDER THREATENED IP WITH MACHETE
NOV 2017	HODDESDON	AGGRAVATED BURGLARY – RESIDENTIAL – DWELL	OFFENDERS HAVE USED BASEBALL BATS AND MACHETES AND HAVE FORCED THEIR WAY INTO THE ADDRESS
DEC 2017	BALDOCK	P.ORDER – THREAT, A'SVE, INSULT WD/BEHAV PROVOKE VI	OFFENDER SEEN BRANDISHING A MACHETE AT PETROL STATION

DEC 2017	BALDOCK	AGGRAVATED BURGLARY-BUS AND COMM	OFFENDER HAS APPROACHED MEMBER OF PUBLIC WITH MACHETE CAUSING FEAR
DEC 2017	HITCHIN	P.ORDER-VIOLENT DISORDER	WEAPONS INCLUDING MACHETES USED IN DAMAGE TO VEHICLES
DEC 2017	HITCHIN	DAMAGE OR DESTROY £5000 OR LESS VEHICLE	WEAPONS INCLUDING MACHETES USED IN DAMAGE TO VEHICLES
DEC 2017	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD	WEAPON-HAVE OFFENSIVE WEAPON IN PUBLIC	A SUSPECT HAS THROWN A MACHETE OUT OF A WINDOW TO ANOTHER SUSPECT WHO APPEARED TO FOLLOW A MALE DOWN THE ROAD
DEC 2017	RICKMANSWORTH	WEAPON-ARTICLE WITH BLADE/SHARP POINT IN PUBLIC	OFFICERS LOCATED A MACHETE AND KNIFE IN VEHICLE

Q4, 5 and 6 – Please see the below table detailing the information requested.

Recorded Date	Location	Standard Offence Description	MO
NOV 2017	BOREHAMWOOD	ASSAULT – THREAT TO KILL	OFFENDER THREATENED TO THROW ACID IN IP'S FACE
NOV 2017	HODDESDON	ASSAULT-GBH S20 INFLICT	ACIDIC CRYSTALS POURED ON ITEM OF IP'S CLOTHING

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.