



Sonia Chopra-Miah
Information Rights
Bedfordshire Police Headquarters,
Woburn Road, Kempston,
Bedford, MK43 9AX

Telephone: 01234 842547
Email: foi@herts.pnn.police.uk

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Our Ref: FOI2017/01741

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2017/01741

I write in connection with your request for information received on 18th December. I note you seek access to the following information:

How many children were abducted by a parent? (Home Office classification 13/1) Please provide this data broken down by:

- Age and gender of the victim at the time.
- Age, gender and nationality of the parent (please specify if the person has two nationalities).
- Name of the country each child has been taken to.

How many children were abducted by other persons? (Home Office classification 13/2). Please specify if kidnapper was a relative or an unknown person.

How many kidnappings happened (Home Office classification 36) when the victim was aged under 18 at the time? Please specify if kidnapper was a relative or an unknown person.

CLARIFICATION

The requester has confirmed that they would like the information from 2011 to 2017 (financial year) 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.

Response - Following enquiries within the Constabulary please see our response below;

Information relating to victim age, gender and nationality of the parent is not easily retrievable from the information system. Manual analysis of crime reports will be necessary and it is estimated that each report will require approximately 10 minutes to extract this information and there are 260 crimes to analyse.

We therefore, consider that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the appropriate limit of £450 as has been stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees & Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Unfortunately this means it is not possible to suggest a way to refine this request, as even if the date range were reduced it would still require multiple records to be manually checked.

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Hertfordshire Constabulary, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact. This letter acts as a Refusal Notice under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

However, I am able to provide the attached FOI20147/1741 Annexe A which may be relative to your request, retrieved before the fees limit was exceeded. **Please note;** the data provided is not specific to victims under the age of 18 but all kidnappings under the specified classification codes.

I hope this is helpful however; it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

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

Sonia Chopra-Miah
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.