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9th May 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/01904

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/01904

I write in connection with your request for information received on 10th April. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am writing to make an application under the Freedom of Information Act. I would like to know how many 'threat to life warning notices' - or so-called 'Osman warnings' - your force issues in 2017 and then also 2016 (please break down by each year). Is it possible to say how many of those warnings were issued to those under the age of 18 (if there are any specific ages of those under 18, I would be grateful to know - even if it is just the youngest)? Is there a breakdown of how many were issued to men and women? And, as a long shot, can you say how many were connected to domestic violence or gangs.

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.

Hertfordshire Constabulary do not have a central record of Osman Warnings that have been issued. This means that every threat to life recorded would have to be manually checked to ascertain whether or not an Osman Warning was issued. It would also require further liaison with each community policing area to collate the level of detail requested.

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.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that –
“Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.”

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.

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.