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Our Ref: FOI2018/05005

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/05005

I write in connection with your request for information received on 5th September. I note you seek access to the following information:

In each of the last three calendar years (2015, 2016, 2017), how many cases were referred to the IOPC/IPCC that involved a woman who committed suicide after reporting to police she was being harassed or stalked by a partner, stalker, or ex partner?

If applicable, please break down any cases by year and provide the name of the victim.

If applicable, please specify what the outcome of the IOPC referral was.

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 - Hertfordshire Constabulary do not routinely record details of individuals who commit suicide except for incident logs of sudden death. These are not electronically comparable to victims of crimes in our Crime Information System.

Verdicts of suicide are decided by the Coroner Service who hold investigations or inquests into unexpected, unnatural or suspicious deaths. It is the Coroners Service who would make reference to the fact a victim could have been a victim of domestic abuse and / or stalking and harassment; especially as such offences may have occurred in different Police Force areas.

Accordingly I have determined that the information to which you seek is not recorded by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

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.