

2nd March 2020

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20200470

REQUEST

I am looking to obtain information regarding crimes in or on the premises of bars and night clubs in your force area.

I would like to know the number of knife and assault crimes reported over the period of the past four years either in or on the premises of bars and nightclubs that you have on record.

By knife crimes, I mean possession of a knife or a sharp object or wounding or stabbings with a knife or sharp object.

By assault crimes I mean common assault crimes sexual assault, battery, GBH, ABH and wounding.

RESPONSE

I approached our Crime Management Data Returns Administrator for assistance with your request. The CMS system and Connect System is used to record complaints or allegations of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as 'crimes'.

They conducted a search of the two crime management systems. (CMS - our legacy system which provides data up to 4th December 2017 and our new CONNECT system which records crimes from that date onwards)

For FOI requests such as this, we access the two separate systems and the retrieval and data extraction varies greatly dependant on the search capabilities and the inputted data. The information you receive therefore may be in two different formats depending on your time parameters, and the data we can provide which will be dependent on the search capabilities of each system. All our systems are designed and used first and foremost for Policing Purposes and have limited search capability.

They were able to provide me with the below data and explanation of their search.

The definition for Knife Crime is dictated by our Annual Data Return (ADR) 160 return to the Home Office, and consists of offences in the following classes where a knife or sharp instrument has been used or threatened:

<i>ADR 160 Group</i>
<i>Attempted murder</i>
<i>Threats to kill</i>
<i>Assault with intent to cause serious harm</i>
<i>Assault with injury</i>
<i>Sexual assault</i>
<i>Rape</i>
<i>Robbery</i>

Note that this does not include Possession offences as requested, so these have been extracted in addition to the above.

In the case of data for 01 Jan 2016 to 04 Dec 2017, these have been extracted from our legacy CMS system for records in the relevant classes with a weapon type and usage which meets the ADR criteria, and where the Premises type was either "PUBLIC HOUSE / WINE BAR" or "NIGHT CLUB / DISCOTHEQUE".

Data for 05 Dec 2017 to 31 Dec 2019 have been extracted from our CONNECT system for records in the relevant classes where the Premises type was "Public House / Bar / Night Club". These have then been filtered by matching them to our Audit table of ADR 160 offences.

The results are as follows:

<i>ADR 160 offences</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>
<i>Attempted murder</i>	2			
<i>Assault with intent to cause serious harm</i>	19	9	10	12
<i>Assault with injury</i>	6	2	2	2
<i>Sexual assault</i>			1	
<i>Robbery</i>	1	1		

<i>Possession offences</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>
<i>Possession of Article with Blade or Point</i>	6	6	5	6