

4th March 2020

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20200480

REQUEST

1. Please state the total number of persons under the age of 18 caught with illegal drugs on school premises.

Please provide information for the following calendar years:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019

2. If possible, please provide the ages of the individuals involved in Q1a-e.

Please provide information for the following calendar years:

- a) 2015
- b) 2016
- c) 2017
- d) 2018
- e) 2019

3. Please provide a break down of the number of incidents from Q1a-e relating to the following illegal drugs

Please provide information for the following calendar years as above

- a) Class-A drugs such as heroin and crack cocaine
- b) Cannabis
- c) Other drugs

4. Please provide a break down of the number of incidents in Q1a-e, where the illegal drugs were seized from:

Please provide information for the following calendar years as above.

- a) Primary schools
- b) Secondary schools

CLARIFICATION

South Yorkshire Police has received a number of similar requests to yours in the past.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/drugs-in-schools-ref-20182039/>

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/crime-stats-in-schools-ref-20180775/>

FROM THE REQUESTER

I found on the disclosure log a similar request up to 2018. However, I am also interested in 2019 data.

The FOI said: "Unfortunately currently, we are unable to retrieve Offender data from the Connect System" - is this still currently the case?

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/media/5312/20182039-response.pdf>

CLARIFICATION

Yes that is still the case:

Unfortunately currently, we are unable to retrieve Offender data from the Connect System. Performance Management Unit has taken the decision that we are unable to provide data regarding suspects i.e. outcomes, ages, gender etc. due to data quality and accuracy issues. However, we can provide the offence outcomes.

Would you like me to progress with 2019 data we can provide (the Offences)

FROM THE REQUESTER

Yes, please provide any data that is possible.

RESPONSE

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

All our systems are designed and used first and foremost for Policing Purposes and have limited search capabilities.

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet and the following explanation of her search criteria:

Please find attached completed FOI.

I have re-run the query for FOI 2018_2039 for the period 05-Dec-2017 to 31-Dec-2019, explanation and caveats as before.