

9th August 2023

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 23.009780

Thank you for your request for recorded data held by South Yorkshire Police

Request

1) How many reported incidents of drink spiking were there between the following dates: January 1st - December 31st 2021, January 1st to December 31st 2022, January 1st to May 1st 2023.

2) Could you please categorize the data according to:

2:1 The total number of spiking reports for each of the periods given above

2:2 If any arrests were made that were in relation to the reports of drink spiking for each of the specified periods

Response

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

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

They provided me with the below Offence data and the following explanation of their search criteria:

Please find the dataset attached for FOI 23.009780

It's worth noting that whilst we believe these methods are the most efficient in looking for spiking incidents there can be overlap when looking at **just** drink or **just** injection spikings.

Without full manual review we **cannot** guarantee that these are distinctly injection/needle spiking and absolutely do not contain anything else. This is due to some of the criteria (MO Desc 1 equal to "Means employed" AND MO Desc 2 equal to "Victim" AND MO Desc 3 equal to "Drugged") being present in the capture of both drink and injection spiking.

Of the data available to us this is as accurate as we could provide without manual review of each crime, creating a response which exceeds the 18hr rule allowed by the FOI Act.

Criteria Used - SYP & Crime only filter, Incident Created Date between 01/01/2021 - 01/05/2023 OR Initial MO contains any "%spiking%; %drink-spike%; %drink spiked%; %spiked drink% OR MO Desc 3 being equal to 'Drink Interfered With -

Spiked' OR MO Desc 1 equal to "Means employed" AND MO Desc 2 equal to "Victim" AND MO Desc 3 equal to "Drugged".

	2021	2022	2023
Distinct Count of Crime	276	320	73

Outcome	2021	2022	2023
01 - Charged/Summoned	2	0	1
01A - Charge/Summons- Alternative Offence	1	1	0
03 - Adult Caution - simple	1	0	0
12 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Is Too Ill (Physical Or Mental Health) To Prosecute	1	2	0
13 - Prosecution Prevented-Named Suspect Identified But Victim Or Key Witness Is Dead Or Too Ill To Give Evidence	2	0	0
14 - Evidential Difficulties Victim Based- Suspect Not Identified: Crime Confirmed But The Victim Either Declines Or Unable To Support Further Police Investigation To Identify The Offender	49	30	4
15 - Named Suspect Identified: Victim Supports Police Action But Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action (CPS and or Police decision)	20	18	5
16 - Named Suspect Identified: Evidential Difficulties Prevent Further Action: Victim Does Not Support (Or Has Withdrawn Support From) Police Action	14	38	9
18 - Investigation Complete; No Suspect Identified. Crime Investigated As Far As Reasonably Possible-Case Closed Pending Further Investigative Opportunities Becoming Available	177	208	48
20 - Dealt with by Partner Agency	0	3	0
22 - Named Suspect Diversionary, educational or intervention activity, resulting from the crime report, has been undertaken and it is not in the public interest to take any further action	2	2	0
99 - Temporary Outcome Awaiting Finalisation of Master Record	0	3	0
Not Recorded	7	15	6