

6th February 2020

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20200232

REQUEST

***The number of crimes in Sheffield that involved Facebook, Twitter or Instagram
If you could provide a figure breakdown for 2015, 16, 17, 18 and 2019 please***

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'.

She 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.

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

Please see the attached data and the below explanation.

CMS(ii) Data –

I have included a count of offences recorded on the CMS(ii) Crime register between 01-Jan-2015 and 04-Dec-2017 where the District is Sheffield and the circumstances of offence free text field mentioned either Facebook, Twitter & Instagram, with a breakdown by Online Crime Flag.

CONNECT Data –

I have included a count of offences recorded for CONNECT Crime between 05-Dec-2017 and 31-Dec-2019 where the District is Sheffield and the Initial MO free text field mentioned either Facebook, Twitter & Instagram, with a breakdown by Online Crime Indicator.

Please note

- The circumstances of offence\Initial MO may mention more than one keyword.*
- Searching for keywords may not accurately identify all offences that are relevant to the request due to spelling variations\errors, therefore results may not accurately reflect what is potentially recorded.*
- The only way to identify why the keyword was mentioned within the circumstances of offence, would be to review each offence at record level, which would not be feasible within time constraints*