

7th December 2020

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 20202421

REQUEST - Use of Force data

Thanks for your response to my recent FOI request.

I've looked at the information on the force's website and I wanted to ask if you could provide the data sheet attached for 2017-18 for the years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 so far.

It would also be great if you could provide the data sheets from which those are compiled - ie the raw data - if possible for the same years, see the example attached.

RESPONSE

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

Section 40 (2) – Personal Information

This is an absolute exemption and therefore a Public Interest Test is not relevant. However, for clarity, I will explain my rationale for engaging this exemption.

Section 40(2) provides that information is exempt if it is the personal data of someone other than the applicant and disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles. The term 'personal data' means data that relates to a living individual who can be identified. This may take an obvious form of 'personal information' such as a name but can also include information which, if aggregated, can pinpoint an individual. The release of this raw data would present the very real possibility of individuals involved being identified.

With this in mind, I am prepared to disclose some data for your request that will not compromise the identity of any individual involved. Please see the attached spreadsheet.