

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

**Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 2022-313**

**REFINED REQUEST**

**I'm seeking details on the number of stalking offences recorded and subsequent sanctions by the force annually from 1st January 2020 onwards. I'm also seeking details on the number of Stalking Protection Orders applied for, and breached, during this period.**

Please could you provide the following under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. How many stalking offences were recorded during the following time periods?

- a. 1st January 2020 - 1st January 2021
- b. 1st January 2021 - 1st January 2022
- c. 1st January 2022 - 31st January 2022

2. How many stalking sanction detections were recorded during the following time periods?

- a. 1st January 2020 - 1st January 2021
- b. 1st January 2021 - 1st January 2022
- c. 1st January 2022 - 31st January 2022

3. On how many (unique) occasions did your force apply for a Stalking Protection Order or interim Stalking Protection Order for the following time periods?

- a. 1st January 2020 - 1st January 2021
- b. 1st January 2021 - 1st January 2022
- c. 1st January 2022 - 31st January 2022

4. On how many (unique) occasions were breaches of Stalking Protection Order or interim Stalking Protection Order recorded for the following time periods?

- a. 1st January 2020 - 1st January 2021
- b. 1st January 2021 - 1st January 2022
- c. 1st January 2022 - 31st January 2022

## RESPONSE

### Questions 1 & 2

I approached our Performance Review Unit for assistance with questions 1 and 2. An analyst within this unit has conducted a search of our Crime Management System – Connect which records complaints or allegations of those matters, which the Home Office specify should be recorded as ‘crimes’.

She provided me with the enclosed spreadsheet in response and the following explanation regarding her search criteria:

*Q2 – I have provided outcomes for this data as the stalking sanction it just another term for a form of court order so we wouldn't hold the data for this.*

*Criteria Used - SYP & Crime only filter, Incident Created Date between 01/01/2020 - 31/01/2022, HO Sub Sub group is equal to 'stalking'*

### Questions 3 & 4

I approached our Legal Services Department for assistance with questions 3 & 4. A Solicitor within the department has provided the following data and comments in response:

- a. 1st January 2020 - 1st January 2021 - 1
- b. 1st January 2021 - 1st January 2022 – 4 (2 full order and 2 interim)
- c. 1st January 2022 - 31st January 2022 – 1

*I have been as accurate as I can but it depends slightly when we consider the application made, whether it's when it is submitted or when it is argued in Court. The two Interim applications also related to full applications so the above is a total of 4 applications (2 of which had applications for interim orders).*

4. *I am not aware of any breaches recorded, although as breach is a criminal offence (and therefore prosecuted by the CPS), it is possible that there have been breaches I am not aware of.*