

3 June 2019

**Mr David Jones**

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request-576564-e82a4cba@whatdotheyknow.com  
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request-576569-8466c082@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-576577-5de94107@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578015-78190950@whatdotheyknow.com  
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request-577951-0a00416f@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577948-e13a9d1d@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577946-a1175911@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577943-142afe2e@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578295-02bc1d17@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578294-e7888085@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578293-ccbba0fc@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578296-178bdfcd@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578298-2a6b83e9@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-578299-b9a1dc67@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577897-46c4d608@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577898-fa3235b7@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577895-1fa015cf@whatdotheyknow.com  
request-577896-8de03255@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Jones,

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 190515022**

Thank you for your requests dated 15 May 2019 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**I request the following information, as provided for under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

**with specific relation to**

**Stoke-on-Trent Combined Court  
Bethesda Street  
Hanley  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST1 3BP**

## **Family Court section**

### **request-576548-e11de2ae@whatdotheyknow.com**

- 1a, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2009.
- 1b, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2010.
- 1c, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2011.
- 1d, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2012.
- 1e, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2013.
- 1f, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2014.
- 1g, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2015.
- 1h, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2016.
- 1i, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2017.
- 1j, The number of child arrangement orders applied for in 2018

### **request-576564-e82a4cba@whatdotheyknow.com**

- 1a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2009.
- 1b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2009.
- 1c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2009.
- 1d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2009.

### **request-576566-eb1fad44@whatdotheyknow.com**

- 2a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2010.
- 2b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2010.
- 2c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2010.
- 2d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2010.

### **request-576567-b7274229@whatdotheyknow.com**

- 3a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2011.
- 3b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2011.
- 3c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2011.
- 3d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2011.

### **request-576568-d3c92282@whatdotheyknow.com**

- 4a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2012.
- 4b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2012
- 4c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2012.
- 4d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2012.

**request-576569-8466c082@whatdotheyknow.com**

5a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2013.

5b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2013.

5c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2013.

5d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2013.

**request-576577-5de94107@whatdotheyknow.com**

8a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2014.

8b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2014.

8c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2014.

8d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2014.

**request-578015-78190950@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2013 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2013 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-578014-4b9b7ee7@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2011 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2011 how many orders where issued by male judiciary

**request-577951-0a00416f@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2012 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2012 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-577948-e13a9d1d@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2010 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2010 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-577946-a1175911@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2010 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2010 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-577943-142afe2e@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2009 how many orders where issued by femal judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2009 how many orders where issued by male judiciary

**request-578295-02bc1d17@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2015 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2015 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-578294-e7888085@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2014 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2014 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-578293-ccbba0fc@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 20114 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 20114 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-578296-178bdfcd@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2016 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2016 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-578298-2a6b83e9@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2017 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2017 how many orders where issued by male judiciary

**request-578299-b9a1dc67@whatdotheyknow.com**

1a, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2018 how many orders where issued by female judiciary.

1b, In relation to Final orders "Child Arrangement Orders" for the year 2018 how many orders where issued by male judiciary.

**request-577897-46c4d608@whatdotheyknow.com**

8a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2017.

8b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2017.

8c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2017.

**8d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2017.**

**[request-577898-fa3235b7@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-577898-fa3235b7@whatdotheyknow.com)**

**8a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2014.**

**8b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2014.**

**8c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2014.**

**8d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2014.**

**[request-577895-1fa015cf@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-577895-1fa015cf@whatdotheyknow.com)**

**8a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2015.**

**8b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2015.**

**8c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2015.**

**8d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2015.**

**[request-577896-8de03255@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-577896-8de03255@whatdotheyknow.com)**

**8a, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody in 2016.**

**8b, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with one parent having visitation rights only in 2016.**

**8c, What number with final orders ended in shared custody with equal ( 50/50 ) custody in 2016.**

**8d, What number with final orders ended in sole parent custody with the other parent having no rights to access in 2016.**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

Where more than one request is received for the same or similar information, section 5(2) of the FOI and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 allows public authorities to aggregate requests and respond to them together I have therefore aggregated your requests.

For the purposes of this response I have interpreted your term 'child arrangement orders' to mean orders made within Private Law under the Children's Act.

I can confirm the MoJ holds all of the information you have requested. However, to provide as the request currently stands would exceed the cost limit set out in the FOIA.

Section 12(1) of the FOIA means public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Where section 12 applies to one part of a request we refuse all of the request under the cost limit as advised by the Information Commissioner's Office.

The electronic court records database is not able to be interrogated to identify which cases fall within the remit of your request. In this instance to provide you with the information you have requested we would be required to manually examine each Children's Act file for applications issued between January 2009 and December 2018 to identify, note and collate which of those cases had a final order and from those identified extract the data you are requesting. Where it was not identifiable from the order if the judge making it was male or female an additional search would need to be made with the judicial team to determine this information.

We believe that the cost of identifying this data would exceed the appropriate limit. Consequently, we are not obliged to comply with your request.

Although we cannot answer your request at the moment, we may be able to answer a refined request within the cost limit. You may wish to consider, for example, reducing the timescale of your request. Please be aware that we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA cost limit, or that other exemptions will not apply. In particular I would advise you to consider the exemptions that apply under section 32 of FOIA which relate to information that is only held as part of a court record.

For guidance on how to structure successful requests please refer to the ICO website on the following link: [http://ico.org.uk/for\\_the\\_public/official\\_information](http://ico.org.uk/for_the_public/official_information)

[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/pdfs/ukxi\\_20043244\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/3244/pdfs/ukxi_20043244_en.pdf)

## **Appeal Rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

[data.access@justice.gov.uk](mailto:data.access@justice.gov.uk)

Disclosure Team, MoJ, 10.25, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

**Knowledge and Information Liaison Officer  
Midlands Region**