



**Customer Relations Team**

Plymouth City Council  
Ballard House, West Hoe Road  
Plymouth, PL1 3BJ

T 01752 398169  
E FOIPeople@plymouth.gov.uk  
www.plymouth.gov.uk

Simone Dalton  
request-581892-a9244444@whatdotheyknow.com

Please ask for: the Information Access Officer

Date: 25 June 2019

My Ref: 909580

Your Ref:

Dear Ms Dalton

**Freedom of Information Request - Safeguarding Referrals for Domestic Abuse**

I am writing further to the previous email dated 10 June 2019 regarding your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Council does hold the information that you have requested but we are withholding some of the information in accordance with Section 12 of the Act, because it would take in excess of 18 hours or would cost more than £450 to comply, which exceeds the statutory appropriate limit.

I have attached our response which details how your request exceeded the appropriate limit; please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice about how to go about this (although we cannot guarantee at this stage that a refined request will fall within the FOIA appropriate limit).

Please note that the information supplied can mostly be re-used in accordance with the Open Government Licence. The council should be acknowledged as the source of the information, but copyright is maintained for all photographs and third party contributions to the information supplied. For further details see <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open%2Dgovernment%2Dlicence/>.

If you wish to discuss this letter or the information provided please contact the Information Access Officer using the contact details above. If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled you can request a review by writing to the Information Access Officer stating the reason for your dissatisfaction. Following the review, if you remain unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office via their website: <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/getting/> or by writing to: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Information about the Freedom of Information Act 2000 can be found on the Information Commissioners Office website: <http://www.ico.org.uk>. Plymouth City Council also has information available on our website:

<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/home/council/dataandinformation/freedominformationfoi>

Yours sincerely,

Neelam Bhardwaja  
Service Director  
Children, Young People and Families

Anna Coles  
Director of Integrated Commissioning (Interim)  
Strategic Co-operative Commissioning

Can you please provide me with the following information for 2016-2017 2017-2018 2018 - to present day, and can it please be broken down in to age groups 16-25 25-60 & 60+

Q1. How many safeguarding referral have you received where the concern has been domestic abuse? Of those how many victims were female, how many were male Of those how many had children, living with them or not Of those children how many were referred to children's services

**A1.**

**Adult Safeguarding**

Please see the table below:

	Total	Male	Female	16-25	25-60	60+
1.4.16 to 31.3.17	71	6	65	0	31	40
1.4.17to 31.3.18	39	10	29	2	18	18
1.4.18 to 31.3.19	28	3	22	6	10	9

We do not have information relating to those who have children living with them; these would have been referred individually but not recorded on the record that provides this information.

**Children's Safeguarding**

Without the details of the children (of the referred female victims of domestic abuse), we are unable to provide these figures.

Q2. Of those victims aged 60+ how many of the perpetrators had a diagnosis of dementia Of those 60+ how many got referred to a specialist domestic abuse service

**A2.**

**Adult Safeguarding**

Please see the table below:

	60+ with diagnosis of dementia
2016-17	4
2017-18	1
2018-19	0

We do not have information regarding referral to a specialist domestic abuse service - these would have been referred individually but not recorded on the record that provides this information.

Q3. Were there any referrals of children under 16 that were in an abusive relationship

**Q3. We are withholding this information because we estimate that in order to provide it would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of information Act 2000, which is currently £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of staff time). This is because there is no specific marker within the system that can be used to infer children under 16 in abusive relationships. The Child In Need code of 'DOM V' (domestic violence) is about the parents and not the child. To identify this we would need to manually check all referrals, which would take an average of 5 minutes per referral.**

**In 2017/18 there were 4,435 referrals x 5 minutes = 370 Hours**

**In 2018/19 there were 4,073 x 5 minutes = 339 Hours**

**From 1 April 2019 to 24 June 2019 there were 748 x 5 minutes = 62 hours**

Q4. Of those how many got referred to a specialist domestic abuse service

**A4. We are withholding this information because we estimate that in order to provide it would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of information Act 2000, which is currently £450 (equivalent to 18 hours of staff time). This is because there is no specific marker within the system that can be used to infer children under 16 in abusive relationships. The Child In Need code of 'DOM V' (domestic violence) is about the parents and not the child. To identify this we would need to manually check all referrals, which would take an average of 5 minutes per referral.**

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