

Crime and Policing Analysis Unit 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/home-office

Our Ref: FOI 61595 11 January 2021

Dear Alexander Markham,

Thank you for your email of 8 December 2020 in which you ask for the number of racially or religiously aggravated offences up to August/September 2020, along with the ethnicity breakdown of such offences.

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm that the Home Office holds some of the information that you have requested. However, after careful consideration we have decided that the information is exempt from disclosure under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act. This provides that information can be withheld if it is intended for future publication.

The Home Office collects and publishes information on racially or religiously aggravated offences as part of the main police recorded crime collection, available here: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/police-recorded-crime-open-data-tables

The next release, covering the period to September 2020, is scheduled for publication in February 2021.

The Home Office does not currently collect information on the ethnicity, nor the perceived ethnicity, of victims of racially or religiously aggravated offences recorded by the police. Individual police forces may hold this information.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference **61595**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Linehan

Crime and Policing Analysis Unit

