



Freedom of Information request 1776-19

1. How many homophobic attacks have there been in 2017, 2018, and 2019?
2. What was the nature of the attack?
3. Where was the attack?
4. Was the person prosecuted?
5. Where any of the attacks on Drag Queens - men in drag.
6. Any information you have on Drag Queens and hate crimes/ attacks.

RESPONSE

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of the FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which:

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

In relation to your particular request, the following exemption applies:

Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit

Section 12 of the FOIA provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the *appropriate limit*.

In relation to questions 5 and 6 there is no automated way to retrieve the information requested and therefore we would need to review each crime report and attached casefile documents manually. There are 1512 homophobic hate crimes recorded in the time period and it is estimated that it would require an average of 5 minutes per crime to review and retrieve the information requested. Therefore, it would require approximately 126 hours to fulfil this part of the request.

It is estimated that the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In the case of the police service, the appropriate limit is £450 which has been calculated to equate to a total of 18 hours of work. If any part of the request exceeds the fees limit then Section 12 applies to the whole request.

This letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.