



Thames Valley Police
Chief Constable John Campbell QPM

Headquarters
Oxford Road
Kidlington
Oxfordshire
OX5 2NX

D Moore

Telephone: 101
Direct dial: 01865 542051
Email: publicaccess@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Our ref: HQ/PA/000013/21
Your ref:

12 January 2021

Dear Mr Moore,

I write in response to the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on 04/01/2021. Thames Valley Police has now considered this request, which for clarity, has been repeated below:

<u>Request</u>	<u>Response</u>
<p>Dear Thames Valley Police,</p> <p>1a. Please provide the number of arrests you made in 2019/20 regarding online sexual offences of any kind related to children.</p> <p>1b. Please provide a breakdown of all the sexual offences associated with these arrests:</p> <p>e.g. section 8 of SOA 2003 [insert number]; section 10 of SOA 2003 [insert number]; section 12 of SOA 2003 [insert number]; section 14 of SOA 2003 [insert number]; and section 15 of SOA [insert number]; section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 [insert number].</p> <p>1c. Please specify the number of these arrests that involved at least one child decoy. By 'child decoy' I am referring to an adult who pretends to be a child.</p>	<p>This request is being refused under Section 12(1) of the FOIA.</p> <p>Section 12 of the FOIA allows that public authorities do not have to comply with section 1(1) of the Act if the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this request.</p> <p>This information is not held in an easily retrievable format. There is no specific field to input whether a Child Decoy has been used for Online Sexual Offences relating to children on the Thames Valley crime recording system. In order to retrieve this information will require a manual review of all reports held relating to Online Sexual Offences to establish whether the free text area states that there was a child decoy used. This will exceed the appropriate 18 hour</p>



Thames Valley Police
Chief Constable John Campbell QPM

<p>2. Please provide the number of arrests you made in 2019/20 in connection with online sexual offences against children based on evidence acquired by your own officers acting as decoys.</p> <p>3. Please provide the number of arrests you made in 2019/20 in connection with online sexual offences against children based on evidence provided to you by so-called paedophile hunters.</p> <p>4. Please provide the names of all so-called paedophile hunting groups who provided information to you that led to the arrest of individuals in connection with sexual offences against children in 2019/20.</p>	<p>time and £450 cost limit.</p> <p>Section 16:- Further advice & assistance</p> <p>You may wish to amend your request to request how many arrests only. This will increase the likelihood of data being returned within the time and cost limits.</p> <p>However please note that this may be subject to further exemptions.</p>
--	--

Complaint Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Thames Valley Police, you can lodge a complaint with the force to have the decision reviewed within two months of the date of this response. Complaints should be made in writing to the FOI inbox; publicaccess@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

If, after lodging a complaint with Thames Valley Police, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely

Sav Mahay
Public Access
Joint Information Management Unit