

## FOIA - 549/19 - Communications Acts

Under the Freedom of Information Act I request:-

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information about your force's use of Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 and the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

Please disclose, for the calendar years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018:

1. Regarding offences under Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003:

a. The number of people arrested.

| Year         | Count     |
|--------------|-----------|
| 2015         | 1         |
| 2016         | 7         |
| 2017         | 5         |
| 2018         | 7         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>20</b> |

b. The number of people charged as a result.

| Year / Charged with:  | Count     |
|---|-----------|
| <b>2015</b>   | <b>1</b>  |
| Racially or religiously aggravated harassment or alarm or distress - words or writing           | 1         |
| <b>2016</b>   | <b>6</b>  |
| Offence of harassment   | 2         |
| Reinstated wef 26.01.09 / Supplying or offering to supply a controlled drug                     | 1         |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety                                   | 3         |
| <b>2017</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc. - offender 18 or over and victim under 16 | 1         |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety                                   | 4         |
| <b>2018</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety                                   | 5         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>17</b> |

c. The number of people arrested for offences where the internet is used in commission of the offence.

| Year         | Count    |
|--------------|----------|
| 2015         | 1        |
| 2016         | 2        |
| 2017         | 2        |
| 2018         | 1        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>6</b> |

d. The number of people charged as a result of offences where the internet is used in commission of the offence.

| Year / Charged with:  | Count    |
|---|----------|
| <b>2015</b>   | <b>1</b> |
| Racially or religiously aggravated harassment or alarm or distress - words or writing           | 1        |
| <b>2016</b>   | <b>2</b> |
| Offence of harassment   | 1        |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety                                   | 1        |
| <b>2017</b>   | <b>2</b> |
| Meeting a female child following sexual grooming etc. - offender 18 or over and victim under 16 | 1        |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety                                   | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>5</b> |

2. Regarding offences under the Malicious Communications Act 1988:

a. The number of people arrested.

| Year | Count |
|------|-------|
| 2015 | 4     |
| 2016 | 5     |
| 2017 | 0     |

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| 2018         | 0        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>9</b> |

- b. The number of people charged as a result.

| <b>Year / Charged with:</b>                                   | <b>Count</b> |
|---|--------------|
| <b>2015</b>   | <b>2</b>     |
| Putting people in fear of violence                            | 1            |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety | 1            |
| <b>2016</b>   | <b>3</b>     |
| Offence of harassment   | 1            |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety | 2            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>5</b>     |

- c. The number of people arrested for offences where the internet is used in commission of the offence.

| <b>Year</b>  | <b>Count</b> |
|--------------|--------------|
| 2015         | 0            |
| 2016         | 5            |
| 2017         | 0            |
| 2018         | 0            |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>5</b>     |

- d. The number of people charged as a result of offences where the internet is used in commission of the offence.

| <b>Year / Charged with:</b>                                   | <b>Count</b> |
|---|--------------|
| <b>2016</b>   | <b>2</b>     |
| Offence of harassment   | 1            |
| Sending letters etc. with intent to cause distress or anxiety | 2            |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>3</b>     |

If possible, I would like each arrest and charge to be categorised according to the relevant CJS Code