

REQUEST	16578	RESPONSE
	<p>1) In the last three years (between 2021-24), how many taxi drivers (those who hold a licence issued by the council) have been arrested, convicted or issued with a caution for non-sexual offences? <i>Can this be broken down into the number of crimes declared, the number of arrests declared and the number of cautions declared and by financial year (6th April - 5th April 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24). What was the nature of the offences?</i></p> <p>2) In the last three years (between 2021-24), how many taxi drivers (those who hold a licence issued by the council) have been arrested, convicted or issued with a caution for offences which are sexual in nature? <i>Can this be broken down into the number of crimes declared, the number of arrests declared and the number of cautions declared and by financial year (6th April - 5th April 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24). What was the nature of the offences?</i></p>	<p>We do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold set out in Regulations.</p> <p>The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/3244) set out the rules in relation to the cost limit (otherwise called the “appropriate limit”). These Regulations are published by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) and are viewable on their web site from this link: <a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf">http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2004/uksi_20043244_en.pdf</a></p> <p>The Regulations set out the cost limit for Government departments and for other public authorities. For local government, Regulation 3 states that the cost limit is £450 and Regulation 4(4) states that the prescribed hourly rate is £25. Regulation 4(4) further provides that where the local authority estimates the time taken to gather the information would exceed this limit (which based on the prescribed hourly rate, equates to 18 officer hours), it may refuse the request under section 12 of FoIA.</p> <p>I am satisfied the cost limit applies to your request and will explain why this is the case. We currently have 1,274 licensed taxi drivers, and a check of an average record would take a minimum of 15 minutes. This exceeds the 18 hour limit.</p>