



Freedom of Information Request

Date of receipt: 6th June 2022

Date of response: 5th July 2022

Freedom of Information request regarding police complaints process and domestic abuse incidents

Request:

Freedom of Information Code

Under the Freedom of Information Code, I respectfully request answers to the following questions:

1. How many police complaint appeals have the Police Complaints Commission ('PCC') received since inception, broken down by year?
2. How many police complaint appeals were upheld by the PCC from inception, broken down by year?
3. Since 2012, how many men have been arrested for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?
4. Since 2012, how many women have been arrested for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?
5. Since 2012, how many men have been charged by the police for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?
6. Since 2012, how many women have been charged by the police for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?
7. Since 2012, how many men have been charged by the Crown Prosecution Services for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?
8. Since 2012, how many women have been charged by the Crown Prosecution Services for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

Response provided by the Police Complaints Commission:

- 1. How many police complaint appeals have the Police Complaints Commission ('PCC') received since inception, broken down by year?**
- 2. How many police complaint appeals were upheld by the PCC from inception, broken down by year?**

The role of the Police Complaints Commission ('the Commission') is to provide independent oversight of the investigation of complaints made against members of the Police in accordance with the Police Complaints (Guernsey) Law, 2008 ('the Law') and the Police Complaints (Conduct Proceedings and Investigations) (Guernsey) Regulations, 2011 ('the Regulations'). The Commission does not have a role in investigating complaints.

In addition, the Commission has a role in considering appeals. The Regulations provide a number of opportunities to appeal where a complainant is dissatisfied with how specific parts of the complaints process has been administered.

The Commission's principal role when conducting an appeal is to review the appropriateness of decisions made and information provided to the complainant.

Year	Question 1 – No. of appeals	Question 2 - No. of appeals upheld	No. of appeals not upheld
2012	1	0	1
2013	1	0	1
2014	0	0	0
2015	2 *	0	0
2016	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	7	0	7
2020	4	0	4
2021	3	0	3
To 30.06.2022	3	0	2

*Not proceeded with

Response provided by the Committee for Home Affairs:

3. Since 2012, how many men have been arrested for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

4. Since 2012, how many women have been arrested for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

In relation to questions 3 and 4 data before March 2016 was captured on a system that has now been archived and it is no longer possible to access statistical reports. To extract the data would require extensive manual scrutiny of individual files. Exemption 2.9 applies in this case, namely that information would require unreasonable diversion of resources because of the amount of information that would need to be processed (searched through) to compile the statistics requested and would require the retrieval of information from files not currently in use.

Arrests	Female	Male	Total
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Mar-Dec 2016	13	53	66
2017	27	79	106
2018	22	89	111
2019	34	107	141
2020	31	143	174
2021	34	138	172
Jan-May 2022	9	59	71 Inc 3 not disclosed

5. Since 2012, how many men have been charged by the police for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

6. Since 2012, how many women have been charged by the police for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

In relation to questions 5 and 6 data before March 2016 was captured on a system that has now been archived and it is no longer possible to access statistical reports. To extract the data would require extensive manual scrutiny of individual files. Exemption 2.9 applies in this case, namely that information would require unreasonable diversion of resources because of the amount of information that would need to be processed (searched through) to compile the statistics requested and would require the retrieval of information from files not currently in use.

Charged	Female	Male	Total
Mar-Dec 2016	2	15	17
2017	9	37	46
2018	3	34	37
2019	8	30	38
2020	4	49	53
2021	6	45	51
Jan-May 2022	1	22	26 Inc. 3 not disclosed

Response provided by the Law Officers of the Crown

7. Since 2012, how many men have been charged by the Crown Prosecution Services for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year? And 8. Since 2012, how many women have been charged by the Crown Prosecution Services for domestic violence incidents, broken down by year?

It is assumed that requests 7 and 8 relate to prosecutions by the Law Officers of the Crown as the Law Officers do not charge and the Crown Prosecution Service is responsible for prosecutions in England and Wales only.

Separate statistics for prosecutions of cases involving violence in a domestic context are not collected by the Law Officers. The information requested, therefore, is not currently available. Prior to 2016/2017 the Law Officers did not have a central data management

system. To recover the information requested would require an extensive search through archived paper files. Since 2016/2017 whilst there is a data management system in use, workspaces are not identified by reference to whether an incident involving violence or of a sexual nature occurred in a domestic setting.

To recover the information requested would require an extensive search of all the potentially relevant workspaces. Exemption 2.9 applies in this case, namely that requests 7 and 8 for information would require unreasonable diversion of resources because of the amount of information that would need to be processed (searched through) to compile the statistics requested and would require the retrieval of information from files not currently in use.