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30/04/2026

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 2871/2026

Thank you for your request for information regarding Group Based CSE & DV Abuse, which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding statistics related to group-based child sexual exploitation (CSE) and Domestic Violence and Abuse.

I would like to request the following data for the period [e.g., January 2015 to December 2025]:

1. Recorded Crimes: The total number of recorded offences flagged as group-based CSE or "grooming gang" related activity within the West Midlands Police jurisdiction.
2. Outcome Statistics: A breakdown of the outcomes for these recorded offences (e.g., reports, number resulting in charges, convictions, or discontinued due to evidential difficulties).
3. Perpetrator Demographics: Where recorded, a breakdown of identified suspects/perpetrators by:
 - Self-defined Ethnicity
 - Religious affiliation
 - Disability status
4. Victim Demographics: Where recorded, a breakdown of victims by:
 - Self-defined Ethnicity
 - Religious affiliation
 - Disability status

NPCC Response:

1. The NPCC does hold information captured by part of your request. At the time of your request, the NPCC Hydrant Programme confirm there are 190 Group Based CSE Crimes Recorded for West Midlands Police for the 3 year period 2023 to 2025.

There is no information held prior to 2023.

2. The NPCC does hold recorded information captured by your request. As advised above, at the time of your request, the NPCC Hydrant Programme confirm there are 190 Group Based CSE Crimes Recorded for West Midlands Police for the 3 year period 2023 to 2025.

Outcome Statistics: A breakdown of the outcomes for these recorded offences (e.g., reports, number resulting in charges, convictions, or discontinued due to evidential difficulties).

There is no specific, dedicated report for each crime, as these offences are recorded within our crime recording systems rather than through individual reports. If those recorded, the following breakdown, as requested for each "I would like to request the following data for the period [e.g., January 2015 to December 2025] with a breakdown of outcomes e.g. reports, number resulting in charges, convictions, or discontinued to evidential difficulties":

Outcome	2023 - 2025
Charge/Summonsed	1
Evidential Difficulties	89
Investigation complete – no suspect identified	31
Unknown	69

There is no conviction data held by the NPCC Hydrant Programme.

3. The NPCC Hydrant Programme holds the following recorded information. The table shows the self-defined ethnicity breakdown of the suspects where a self-defined ethnicity was recorded for identified suspects. Of those suspects recorded, 29 had a Self-defined ethnicity as follows:

Suspects self-identified ethnicity	2023 - 2025
A1 Indian	1
Pakistani	1
Any other Asian background	2
Caribbean	3
African	2
Any other Black background	2
White and Black Caribbean	0
White and Asian	0
Any other mixed	1
Any other	2
British	13
Any other white background	2

There is no religious affiliation or disability status data held by the NPCC Hydrant Programme.

4. The NPCC Hydrant Programme holds the following recorded information. The table shows the self-defined ethnicity breakdown of the victims where a self-defined ethnicity was recorded:

Victime self-identified ethnicity	2023 - 2025
Any other background	2
Caribbean	3
African	4
Any other Black background	3
White and Black Caribbean	6
White and Asian	7
Any other mixed	2
Any other	1
British	59
Any other white background	4

There is no religious affiliation or disability status data held by the NPCC Hydrant Programme.

The NPCC not hold information captured by your request.

Normal Standard of proof to apply in determining whether a public authority does hold any requested information is the civil standard of the balance of probabilities. In deciding where the balance lies, the Information Commissioner considers the scope, quality, thoroughness and results of the searches carried out by the public authority as well as considering where appropriate, any other reasons offered by the public authority to explain why the information is not held.

Checks have been made with the NPCC portfolio(s) for who confirm no information held.

I have undertaken all the necessary checks in establishing whether information is held which is captured by your request and any necessary steps regarding retrieval of such information.

Searches have been conducted with the NPCC portfolio(s) that relates to the subject matter, and I am satisfied that the search conducted to locate the information that you have requested has been robust.

There is no information held within the NPCC, and I therefore conclude that the information that you seek is not held by the NPCC.

A consideration for you is to make a request with individual police forces.

Unfortunately, I do not hold a public facing list of force FOI contact details, however they will be available [here](#).

You can send a request to multiple forces by way of one email, with each force having a lawful responsibility under the Act to respond to you.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

www.npcc.police.uk

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Internal Review

Any request for an internal review will be acknowledged and responded to, based on the specific wording of your initial request only.

We ask that any rationale to request an internal review, does not include any requests for new information and ask that these be submitted by separate email. We will acknowledge as a new request and may aggregate to your initial request in compliance with the legislation.

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 40 working days of the date of this response.

The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

Annex A

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the NPCC, when refusing to provide information by way of exemption in question and (c) states why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a refusal notice to those aspects of your request.

Legislation – Section 16

- (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.