

Please ask for : Alethea Fuller
Telephone Number: 0121 626 6060
Our Reference: 2025-00890
wmpcc@westmidlands.police.uk



Date: 01/08/2025

Dear FOI Applicant,

Thank you for your freedom of information request received in this office on 30 June 2025 in which you asked:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding homicides involving a sexual motive or component that occurred within your jurisdiction over the past four decades.

Specifically, I request the following information for the period 1 January 1985 to 31 December 2024:

1. The total number of recorded homicides involving a sexual element, defined as:
– Murders involving sexual assault (before, during, or after the act) – Homicides motivated by sexual gratification, sadism, or sexual control – Murders committed during rape or attempted rape – Homicides officially linked to a sexual motivation in court proceedings or internal classification

2. For each case (where available), please include the following offender-related data:
– Year of offence
– Offender's gender
– Offender's age at time of offence
– Whether the offender had prior convictions (particularly for sexual or violent crimes) – Whether the offender was classified as a serial offender – Any indication of diagnosed mental health conditions or psychiatric involvement – Offender's relationship to the victim (e.g., stranger, acquaintance, partner, family member) – Whether the offender was known to police or social services prior to the homicide – If applicable, the typology assigned (e.g., sexual sadist, opportunistic, anger-retaliatory) – Whether the case was referred to or flagged by the Serious Crime Analysis Section (SCAS)

I do not request any personal identifiers. Aggregate or anonymised case-level data is sufficient. If this request exceeds cost limits, I am happy to prioritise data from more recent decades (e.g. 1995–2024) or reduce the level of detail on your advice.

RESPONSE

Our data is not organised in such a way as to allow us to provide this information within the appropriate (cost) limit within the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act (see 'Reason for Decision' below).

However rather than refusing your request outright at this stage, I would like to explore with you how the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) may best assist you to request relevant

information which we hold. Within the cost limit we could conduct searches on the number of recorded homicides between the period of 1st January 1985 - 31st December 2025.

To enable us to proceed with your request I would be grateful if you could confirm whether you wish us to undertake the search outlined above. After receiving your reply, your request will be considered and you will receive a response within the statutory timescale of 20 working days, as defined by the Act, subject to the application of any statutory exemptions. If you chose not to respond then your request will remain unanswered.

REASON FOR DECISION

The cost of compliance with the whole of your request is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond, i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12(1) of the FOI Act 2000. For the OPCC, the appropriate limit is set at £450, as prescribed by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, S.I. 3244.

We do not have the number of homicides of a sexual nature or the details of offenders relating to each case readily available. Locating this information would require reading through the incident modus operandi summaries, which would be labour intensive and be difficult to conduct accurately. This is why your suggestion of shortening the time period would unfortunately still exceed the £450 limit.

Although the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) cannot provide this information, this information may be held by, and accessible to, West Midlands Police.

In order to be of some assistance, please see the following contact details should you wish to submit your request to West Midlands Police.

Freedom on Information Unit
West Midlands Police
PO Box Box 52, Lloyd House
Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6NQ E-mail: foi@westmidlands.police.uk

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information and data on West Midlands Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner see our publication scheme and disclosure log

[Freedom of Information - West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner \(westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk)

Freedom of Information Right of Appeal

Any person who has requested information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and is unhappy with the way their request for information has been handled can request a review of their case.

A request for review must be made in writing by letter or email. You should include the reference number of your request if you have it, and outline why you are requesting the review to:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Lloyd House
Birmingham
B4 6NQ

Telephone: 0121 626 6060

Email: wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

All requests for review will be recorded. Receipt of a request for internal review will be acknowledged and the appellant informed of an estimated date for determining the outcome. The OPCC will attempt to respond to internal reviews as soon as practicable and in any case within two months.

All investigations will be undertaken by someone not involved in the original response.

The result of any internal review will be communicated to the appellant outlining the decisions taken.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 08456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

There is no charge for making a request for internal review or appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Fuller', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Alethea Fuller
Deputy Chief Executive