

c/o PO BOX 481
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

Email: npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk

08/08/2022

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 263/2022

Thank you for your request for information regarding London Crime Data; which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

I would like to request crime data in London that includes the latitude and longitude of each crime committed in a CSV file.

NPCC Response:

It is unclear what is meant by 'crime data in London' as this is too broad. For example by London, this could be interpreted to be geographical, i.e. City of London, Central London or Greater London or it could be by Police Force area, Metropolitan Police Service or City of London Police. Additionally you have not provided any date parameters for your search.

A public authority is entitled to treat a request as invalid where specific recorded information is not specified. Section 8(1) of the Act sets out the requirements of a valid request for information and says that a request must, amongst things, 'describe the information'.

The Freedom of Information Act affords anyone in the world the right to request information by a Public Authority. It does not cover thoughts and/or opinion, unless recorded. The Act is not designed to answer general questions.

The legislation places two key obligations on an authority that is covered by the Act when they are considering a request for information. These obligations are set out in Section 1(1) and stipulate that when that authority receives a valid request (which is defined elsewhere in the Act) that authority must confirm what information is or is not held (S1(1)(a)) and, if that information is held, it must be provided to the applicant unless it is considered to be exempt information (S1(1)(b)).

It is therefore reasonable to assert that if we are unable to meet this obligation under S1(1) of the Act we are unable to confirm or deny what information is held by the NPCC.

In wishing to assist you, you can download information by date parameters and by force from the Police.uk API online by selecting or specific forces required and the information can include crime data, outcomes data and stop and search data by selecting the one you wish to see at the bottom of the page. This also includes the ability to search crime location. I have provided the link below.

1st Floor, 10 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NN T 020 7084 8950 F 020 7084 8951



[Data downloads | data.police.uk](https://data.police.uk)

Please note that the information published on the police.uk website is uploaded individually by forces. Metadata relating to the published information is not collated by the NPCC.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Greenlees

NPCC Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

www.npcc.police.uk

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Internal Review

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 20 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.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Annex A

The legislation: Section 8

Your request is invalid under the provisions of Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 creates a statutory right of access to recorded information held by public authorities. A public authority in receipt of a request must, if permitted, confirm if that public authority holds the requested information and, if so, then communicate that information to the applicant.

Section 8 of the Act provides:

- (1) In this Act any reference to a 'request for information' is a reference to such a request which-
 - (a) Is in writing
 - (b) States the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence, and
 - (c) Describes the information requested**

Section 84 of the Act states that information means information recorded in any form, therefore these questions are not asking for 'information' as defined in the Act.

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.