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|  | **Our Reference:** 562-16 FOI 108077 |  | March 2017 |

**Freedom of Information Request**

You asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**Request is in relation to modern slavery**

**Figures for the number of adults who were charged for modern slavery for each month of the last 5 years. Please breakdown per region of the UK the act was perpetrated and the month it occurred. Please include any detail you have about each case**

**Figures for the number of adults who were convicted for modern slavery for each month of the last 5 years. Please breakdown per region of the UK the act was perpetrated and the month it occurred. Please include any detail you have about each case**

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Please accept my apologies for the delay in this response.

I can confirm that the department holds some of the information that you have asked for.

With regard to your question concerning convictions at court, please see the attached table, which provides the number of offenders found guilty at all courts for offences related to modern slavery, in England and Wales, by month, from 2011 to 2015.

With regards to your request for details of the employment status between the defendant and the company bringing the prosecution, I can confirm that the department holds information that you have asked for, but in this case we will not be providing it to you as it is exempt from disclosure under Section 32 of the FOIA.

Centrally-held information does not allow us to separately identify the location of an offence; we cannot assume the case has been heard in a court in the same area as the offence occurred. The same is the case for the date of the offence. That specific information would be held in court records.

We are not obliged to provide information contained in a court record. In this case, some of the information you are seeking is contained in the court records in England and Wales and is exempt from disclosure under Section 32.

Section 32 exempts information contained in those litigation documents and court, tribunal and inquiry records to which it applies. It exempts information held by a public authority if it is held solely by virtue of its being contained in those categories of document.

The terms of this exemption in the FOIA mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

I can confirm that the MoJ does not hold the information on charging data you requested.

The MoJ Court Proceedings Database holds information on defendants proceeded against, found guilty and sentenced for criminal offences in England and Wales. Responsibility for statistics on whether or not a suspect has been charged with an offence in England and Wales falls within the remit of the Crown Prosecution Service. You can contact or make a request to the Crown Prosecution Service by using the following link:

[FOIUnit@cps.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FOIUnit@cps.gsi.gov.uk)

Responsibility in Scotland is held by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal, who can be contacted via the below link:-

<http://www.copfs.gov.uk/foi/foi>

Responsibility in Northern Ireland is held by the Public Prosecutions service. If you wish to make a request of them, please follow the below link:-

<http://www.ppsni.gov.uk/Contact-Us-5040.html>

Please be advised that the FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. It does not place a duty upon public authorities to answer a question unless recorded information exists. The FOIA duty is to only provide the recorded information held.

Also, please note that statistics reported to Justice Statistics Analytical Services cover England and Wales only. If you wish to receive statistics on court proceedings in Scotland or Northern Ireland, these are under the remit of the Scottish Government and the Department of Justice Northern Ireland. They can be contacted via the below links:-

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Information/FOI>

<http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/foi.htm>