

XXXX  
XXXX

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

May 2018

Dear XXXX

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 180426008**

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

**Details of custodial and non-custodial workloads and defendant and witness postcodes for the last three complete financial years at Magistrates Courts:**  
**Huntingdon**  
**Peterborough**  
**Colchester**  
**Chelmsford**  
**Romford**  
**Stevenage**  
**Southend**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds some of the information that you have requested.

Our systems do not record witness postcodes. This is because there is no legal or business requirement for MoJ to do so. The FOIA does not oblige a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not held. The duty is to only provide the recorded information held.

However, I have provided the remainder of the data requested in the attached tabulation.

Notes regarding the data:

- Every effort is made to ensure that the figures presented are accurate and complete. However, it is important to note that the data have been extracted from large administrative data systems generated by the courts. As a consequence, care should be taken to ensure data collection processes and their inevitable limitations are taken into account when data are used.
- Data are taken from a live management information system and can change over time.
- The report counts the number of cases with first hearings where the defendant was in custody and where the defendant was not in custody, rather than the number of defendants.

- The data are based on the case opened date being in the reporting period (Financial Year) specified.
- Data are management information and are not subject to the same level of checks as official statistics
- The data provided are the most recent available and for that reason might differ slightly from any previously published information.
- Data have not been cross referenced with case files.

## **Appeal Rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

[data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

**XXXX.**