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|  MoJ_BLK_SML |  |  |
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|  | **Our Reference:** 555-16 FOI 108047 |   | November 2016 |

**Freedom of Information Request**

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

**I am hoping you may be able to help - I have checked your online publications of this data but it does not seem to be available to the degree which would be helpful for me.**

**I am wondering if there is any data captured for the type of court disposal given as a result of a guilty sentence? Specifically, I am looking to know how many Rehabilitation Activity Requirements (Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014) have been proposed by courts (either nationally or locally: London courts)**

**Is disposal data captured to this depth?**

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm that the department holds the information that you have asked for. However, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOI Act because it is reasonably accessible to you, and I am pleased to inform you that you can access it via the following links.

Data on those commencing rehabilitation orders in England and Wales from 1 February 2015 (when these requirements came into effect) to end of June 2016 (most recent available), is available via the links below to the Offender Management Statistics Quarterly publication, and are contained in the **probation quarterly tables**. You will need to use table 4.4, which lists requirements commenced under community orders and suspended sentenced orders from April to June 2015 to April to June 2016 (with regard to the first link) and January to March 2015 to January to March 2016 with regard to the second link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-april-to-june-2016>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/offender-management-statistics-quarterly-january-to-march-2016>

Please note that as data for quarter 3 (which covers the period from 1 July to 30 September 2016) is planned for publication in January 2017, we will not be providing you this information at this time. We are not obliged to provide information that is intended for future publication (under section 22 of the FOIA). In line with the terms of this exemption in the Freedom of Information Act, we have considered whether it would be in the public interest for us to provide you with the information ahead of publication, despite the exemption being applicable. In this case, I have concluded that the public interest favours withholding the information

When assessing whether or not it was in the public interest to disclose the information to you, we took into account the following factors:

**Public interest considerations favouring disclosure**

* Disclosure would for example improve transparency in the operations of Government, and of the justice system in particular.

**Public interest considerations favouring withholding the information**

* It is in the public interest to adhere to the existing publication process for official statistics, which includes time for the data to be collated and properly verified.
* It is also in the public interest to ensure that the publication of official information is a properly planned and managed process, to ensure that the data are accurate once they are placed into the public domain.
* It is also in the public interest to ensure that the information is available to all members of the public at the same time, and premature publication could undermine the principle of making the information available to all at the same time through the official publication process.

We reached the view that, on balance, the public interest is better served by withholding this information under Section 22 of the Act at this time.