

Reference: 2023-091

Thank you for your email in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

Please provide the following information concerning the operation of the Serious Fraud Office's ("SFO's") Victims Right to Review ("VRR") Scheme:

- 1. In the past 5 years, how many requests under the VRR Scheme has the SFO received:**
 - a) In total;**
 - b) From requestors based outside of the UK, who are not UK nationals;**
 - c) From requestors based in the UK?**
- 2. Of those requests, how many has the SFO refused:**
 - a) In total;**
 - b) From requestors based outside of the UK, who are not UK nationals;**
 - c) From requestors based in the UK?**
- 3. Of those requests that the SFO refused from requestors based outside of the UK, who are not UK nationals, how many were refused on the grounds, *inter alia*, that the requestor was not a "victim" for the purposes of the VRR Scheme?**

Response

Please note:

The Victim Right to Review (VRR) Scheme is offered to any individual who could be considered a "victim" according to the definition provided in the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (November 2020):

- *"a person who has suffered harm, including physical, mental or emotional harm or economic loss which was directly caused by a criminal offence*
- *a close relative (or a nominated family spokesperson) of a person whose death was directly caused by a criminal offence."*

Our VRR process can be viewed at <https://www.sfo.gov.uk/publications/information-victims-witnesses-whistleblowers/#victims>

The VRR does not work on a 'request' basis.

Question 1

The SFO holds some of the information requested. Note, we do not record information on nationality. Please see below each answer in the order asked:

1. There have been four cases in the last five years where victims met the criteria under the VRR Scheme, and of which – in three cases – victims wished to proceed with VRR.
2. Of these, none of those who wished to proceed with VRR were based outside of the UK.
3. Of these, 10 victims (within the three cases) were based in the UK.

Question 2 & 3

With respect to questions 2 & 3, we are unable to provide the information you have requested as we do not refuse requests from qualifying victims who are offered the right to review under our VRR Scheme.