

REQUEST

I would like to know the number of children (under 17) who have been investigated in the last three years by your force for “sexting” activities – that is sending or sharing explicit or naked pictures of themselves on social media or text messaging services to others.

If possible can you please tell me?

1. The age of the child at the time of the offence and their gender

See Table 1.

2. The outcome, ie. No further action, police caution, charged, ongoing

See Table 2

3. The medium used to send explicit content (for example: text message, WhatsApp, Twitter, and Facebook)

See Table 3

Response

01/04/2014 - 28/02/2017

Table 1

For the offences of

Distribute indecent photo of child
 Make indecent photograph of child
 Possess indecent photo child distribution
 Take indecent photo of child

Where offender is under 17 by Gender

Age of Offender	2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017		Grand Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
10	1	1					2
11		1		1	1	1	4
12			2	5		3	10
13	1	2	5	3	3	4	18
14	3	3	2	10	3	10	31
15	3	7	1	8	4	5	28
16		5		6	1	6	18
17	1			3		1	5
Grand Total	9	19	10	36	12	30	116

**These offences will include where an image has been distributed, received and distributed or a self-image has been distributed*

Table 2 Outcome

Outcome	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	Grand Total
Caution		1		1
Community Resolution	4	10	3	17
Formal action against the offender is not in the public interest	1	2	1	4
Named Suspect identified: Evidential Difficulties prevent further action: Victim does not support police action	10	15	10	35
Named Suspect identified: Victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action	11	3	11	25
Named Suspect identified: Investigation not in the public interest Police Decision		1	6	7
(blank)	2	14	11	27
Grand Total	28	46	42	116

Table 3 - Medium Used

Medium Used	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	Grand Total
Blackberry messenger	1			1
Email	1			1
Facebook	6	5	3	14
Facebook Messenger	1	3	5	9
Facetime		1		1
Instagram	4	2	3	9
Internet Site			1	1
KIK		1		1
Live me app			1	1
OUVO website		1		1
phone	2	3	4	9
Skype			4	4
Snap chat		5	5	10
Social network	3	1	2	6
Unknown	10	18	12	40
Video Chatting		1		1
Whatsapp		3	1	4
you tube		2	1	3
Grand Total	28	46	42	116