1a) The number of hate crime reports received by your police force for the time period January 2011 to January 2021 broken down by month. If you hold the data in another form such as quarterly, please provide that. If you do not hold data for January 2021, please provide data up to the latest available time period.

Please see attached (281A_Attachment_02)

1b) Please provide this monthly (or quarterly or equivalent) data broken down by type of hate crime such as racially aggravated/religious/transgender etc.

Please see attached (281A_Attachment_02)

(i) Please also break it down by how it was reported e.g. 999, 101, front counter, officer on the street, third party, online reporting

Please see attached (281A Attachment 02)

(ii) and who reported it e.g. police officer, hate crime reporting centre, member of the public. It is my understanding that the data should be held in a retrievable format for the first two of these requests; if you do not hold retrievable data for the third request (who reported it) and to provide that would trigger the cost exemption, please ignore this third request.

This information is exempt by virtue of Section 12 of the FOIA. Please see covering letter for further details.

1c) Please also provide this monthly (or quarterly or equivalent) data broken down by outcome. At the absolute minimum, please provide this broken down by i) reports that did not make it past the crime bureau stage, ii) reports filed pending further information, iii) reports that led to arrest, iv) reports that led to charge. I would expect to received more detailed data however, with an outcome listed for every report.

Please see attached (281A_Attachment_02)

2) Please provide us with the criteria the crime bureau (or similar) uses to determine whether a hate crime report should be allocated to an officer (ie the first step in beginning an investigation). If this takes the form of a document or flow chart or any other file, please provide the original material. If to do so is operationally sensitive, please provide a general overview of the criteria used and explain the reasons for doing so.

Please be advised that no specific information is held in relation to hate crime solvability. West Midlands Police (WMP) proportionately investigates all crimes reported to us or that we identify through our policing activity. The extent and nature of the investigation will naturally be appropriate to the circumstances, the information and evidence forthcoming in relation to the crime, alongside policing knowledge and experience.

However, please see the below link to the College of Policing website, which provides guidance to all forces in respect of responding to hate crimes.

https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/major-investigation-and-public-protection/hate-crime/responding-to-hate-crimes/

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In addition, please see the below link to WMP's Hate Crime Policy.

https://foi.west-midlands.police.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Hate-Crime-v1.0.pdf

3) Please provide the number of hate crime reports that resulted in referral to the CPS. Again, please break this down by time period, type, how it was reported, and who reported it, assuming that all these things can be fulfilled without triggering the cost exemption. If you do not hold this data and to retrieve it would trigger the cost exemption, please disregard this request.

This information is exempt by virtue of Section 12 of the FOIA. Please see covering letter for further details.

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