

Request Reference: 62A/23**1. The total number of online grooming cases (Sexual Communication with a Child offences) recorded in 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.**Table 1

Year	Total
2022	202
2021	183
2020	153
2019	117
2018	54
2017	23
Grand Total	732

2. The age of the victims in these cases each year and the proportion of the victims that identified themselves as each gender category, where these details were recorded.Table 2

Victim Age	Year						Total
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
6	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
7	-	1	2	3	-	-	6
8	1	2	3	1	1	-	8
9	4	7	5	1	3	2	22
10	9	12	13	2	3	1	40
11	16	13	18	9	5	4	65
12	23	15	16	22	7	2	85
13	26	22	29	15	6	5	103
14	19	11	20	13	10	6	79
15	17	13	12	16	8	1	67
Not Known/Recorded	87	87	35	35	10	2	256
Grand Total	202	183	153	117	54	23	732

Table 3

Victim Gender	Year						Total
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
Female	84	64	58	72	34	17	329
Male	16	15	4	12	8	4	59
Not Known/Recorded	102	104	91	33	12	2	344
Grand Total	202	183	153	117	54	23	732

3. The methods, social media platforms and websites used in these offences each year where the means of communication was known/recorded.

Table 4

Method/Platform	Year						Total
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
Adult Sites	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Anonymous	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Chat Room	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Chatavenue	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Chatiw	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dating Site	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Discord	4	8	3	-	-	-	15
Facebook	12	10	9	1	2	1	35
Fastmeet	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
Fortnite	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Grindr	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Instagram	7	12	33	7	3	1	63
Kik	5	7	1	2	3	-	18
Live	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Meet24	1	-	2	-	-	-	3
Meet4U	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Meetez	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Meetme	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Msn	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Omegle	3	7	1	-	-	-	11
Online Chat	-	-	-	1	2	-	3
Online Game	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Only Fans	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Playstation	-	3	4	-	1	-	8
Plentyoffish	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Quora	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Rando Chat	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Roblox	1	1	2	-	-	-	4
Skout	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Skype	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Snapchat	41	28	21	5	-	1	96
Tagged.Com	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tango	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Text	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tiktok	2	1	8	-	-	-	11
Twitter	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Twoo	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Wattpad	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Whatsapp	7	8	6	-	-	-	21
Whatsapps & Facebook	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Xbox	2	4	1	-	-	-	7
Not Known/Recorded	110	83	44	100	43	20	400
Grand Total	202	183	153	117	54	23	732

4. How many people were arrested in relation to these crimes in each year, how many were found guilty and sentenced and how many are still ongoing.

The cost of compliance with this question is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond, i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information would exceed the appropriate costs limit under section 12(1) of the FOI Act 2000 (see covering letter for further details). However, to assist in providing you with data that may be useful, the following table instead provides a breakdown of the offences by Outcome.

Table 5

Outcome Code	Outcome Description	Year						Total
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	
OC1A	Charge or Summons	28	34	11	10	4	2	89
OC1B	Postal Charge	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
OC1D	Charge/Summons with Alternative Offence	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
OC3	Caution – Adult (Inc Conditional Caution)	3	2	5	7	4	1	22
OC5	The Offender has Died (all offences)	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
OC8	Community Resolution	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
OC10	Sufficient Evidence to Charge, But Police Decided Not In The Public Interest To Prosecute	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
OC14	Evidential Difficulties - Victim Based - Named suspect not identified	11	15	2	1	3	-	32
OC15	Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action (victim support)	32	44	25	9	8	4	122
OC16	Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action (no victim support)	23	17	12	17	5	2	76
OC18	Investigation Complete: No suspect identified	42	46	85	56	22	11	262
OC20	Further action will be taken by another body	7	8	5	6	-	1	27
OC22	Diversionsary, educational or intervention activity, resulting from the crime report, has been undertaken and it is not in the public interest to take any further action	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
None	Outcome Pending	54	16	7	7	6	-	90
Grand Total		202	183	153	117	54	23	732