West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

1) The number of applications for shotgun certificates over the last 5 years. (broken down by year)

2019 - new grants 367, renewals 535

2020 - new grants 148, renewals 1392

2021 - new grants 366, renewals 1267

2022 - new grants 271, renewals 1077

2023 (up until the current date) - new grants 90, renewals 742

2) The number of rejected shotgun certificate applications over the last 5 years. (broken down by year)

2019 - 15

2020 - 9

2021 - 14

2022 - 14

2023 (up until the current date) - 7

3) The number of FAC applications made over the last 5 years. (broken down by year)

2019 - new grants 119, renewals 254

2020 - new grants 97, renewals 316

2021 - new grants 92, renewals 271

2022 - new grants 97, renewals 245

2023 (up until the current date) - new grants 47, renewals 269

4) The number of rejected FAC applications over the last 5 years. (broken down by year)

2019 - 6

2020 - 2

2021 - 4

2022 - 3

2023 (up until the current date) - 3

5) The number of violent crimes committed by persons holding either, or both a firearm certificate or Shotgun certificate in the last 5 years at the time of the offence. (broken down by year)

We do not retain this information on local or national policing systems. To extract this data accurately each certificate holder will need reviewing from the last 5 years (live, cancelled and revoked certificates). This will be a minimum of the current number of certificate holders which is 9,354 plus the certificates now cancelled and revoked. A manual review of each file will need to take place, if each record took 5 minutes to review, it would equate to in excess of 770 hours and will exceed the FOI time limit.

6) The current total number of shotgun certificate holders in the west midlands area as of 2023.

As of 27/07/2023 - 7543

7) The current total number of firearm certificate holders in the west midlands area as of 2023.

As of 27/07/2023 - 1811