



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 20-1451

Enquiries:

Telephone: 7322 3347

Facsimile: 7322 4180

Mr Lee Odenwalder MP
Member of Parliament
2-3, 4 John Rice Avenue
ELIZABETH VALE SA 5112

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Odenwalder

Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1991, access was sought to:

"A monthly breakdown of data/statistics related to knives or any bladed implement detected/present during searches of premises, individuals and vehicles or resulting from criminal investigations."

In a telephone conversation I had with [REDACTED] on 19 March 2020, she agreed to revise the date range scope to calendar years for 2016 to 2019.

In a further email dated 19 March 2020, I advised your office that South Australia Police (SAPOL) could only provide statistics of offences reported to police where an offensive weapon or where a bladed weapon was involved. On 25 March 2020, [REDACTED] agreed to narrow the scope to include statistic for both offences.

It is determined to **release in full** the statistical data of offences reported to police from 2016 to 2019 broken down monthly for where an offensive weapon was involved – (includes rifle gun pistol, knife, sword, club, truncheon or other offensive or lethal weapon) and offences reported to police where a bladed weapon was involved – (includes axe, tomahawk, bottle, glass, knife, machete, sword, scissors, keys, screwdriver, chain saw, razor.)

Please be aware that these statistics are not related to searches or criminal investigations, they are only offences reported to police where an offensive weapon or bladed weapon was involved.

This data is represented in two tables below and was accurate as of 18 March 2020.



Statistical data for offensive weapon - includes a rifle, gun, pistol, knife, sword, club, bludgeon, truncheon or other offensive or lethal weapon or instrument

YEAR	MONTH												Total
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
2016	154	149	153	147	131	127	112	137	115	134	147	94	1,600
2017	89	86	76	81	86	84	89	105	102	115	97	115	1,125
2018	110	99	125	99	101	108	92	136	115	96	136	141	1,358
2019	108	117	173	125	126	125	154	117	111	123	132	146	1,557
Total	461	451	527	452	444	444	447	495	443	468	512	496	5,640

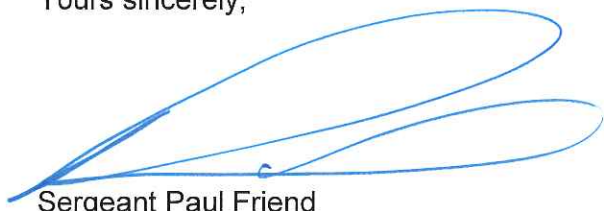
Statistical data for a bladed weapon – includes axe, tomahawk, bottle, glass, knife, machete, sword, scissors, keys, screwdriver, chain saw, razor and crossbow.

YEAR	MONTH												Total
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
2016	294	261	277	285	286	240	245	300	271	295	291	274	3,319
2017	220	230	204	181	222	221	248	240	262	274	283	287	2,872
2018	294	253	308	251	242	258	271	352	307	274	387	461	3,658
2019	404	379	480	398	425	418	381	412	377	435	405	444	4,958
Total	1,212	1,123	1,269	1,115	1,175	1,137	1,145	1,304	1,217	1,278	1,366	1,466	14,807

Please note that any one of the bladed weapons mentioned above may have **not** been used during the commission of a crime, but merely sighted by the victim.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Log-Policy.pdf. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by 27 April 2020.

Yours sincerely,



Sergeant Paul Friend
Freedom of Information Unit
 (Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

26th March 2020