



Response Date:21/05/2026

2026/481 - 'Deepfake' or 'Synthetic media' or 'AI Generated media'

Although excess cost removed the forces obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

- 1. I am seeking information on the number of cases recorded by your force in the past 12 months (30/04/2025 – 30/04/2026) that include reference to, or investigation involving 'Deepfake' or 'Synthetic media' or 'AI Generated media' in general.**

Occurrences 30/04/2025 – 30/04/2026 with keyword searches of occurrence summary and enquiry logs for "deep fake" / "deepfake", "artificial intelligence", "AI", or "Synthetic Media":

Calendar Year	Offence Category Description	HO Code	HO Description
2025	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/22	Sexual activity with a female child under 16, no penetration, offender aged under 18
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Incest or Familial Sexual Offences	023/12	Sex with an adult relative, penetration, offender aged 16 or over, relative aged 18 or over
2025	Sexual Grooming	071/17	Engage in sexual communication with a child

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2025	Rape Of A Female Child Under 16	019/07A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged under 16
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/26	Arrange / facilitate sexual activity with a child / incite a child to engage - penetration
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Sexual Grooming	071/17	Engage in sexual communication with a child
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Sexual Grooming	071/17	Engage in sexual communication with a child
2025	Rape Of A Female Aged 16 And Over	019/08A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged 16 or over
2025	Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences	088/15B	Threaten to share intimate photograph or film
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Sexual Assault On A Female Child Under 13	020/06	Sexual assault of a female child under 13
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Rape Of A Female Child Under 16	019/07A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged under 16
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail

2025	Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences	088/15B	Threaten to share intimate photograph or film
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Sexual Assault On A Female Aged 13 And Over	020/05	Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over
2025	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/18	Sexual activity with a female child under 16, no penetration, offender aged 18 or over
2025	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/18	Sexual activity with a female child under 16, no penetration, offender aged 18 or over
2025	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2025	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Harassment	008/29	Breach of conditions of injunction against harassment
2025	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2025	Stalking	008/66	Stalking involving serious alarm/distress
2025	Sexual Grooming	071/17	Engage in sexual communication with a child
2025	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2025	Sexual Activity Involving A	022/20	Causing or inciting a female child

	Child Under 16		under 16 to engage in sexual activity, no penetration, offender aged 18 or over
2025	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2025	Sexual Assault On A Female Aged 13 And Over	020/05	Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences	088/15B	Threaten to share intimate photograph or film
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Rape Of A Female Child Under 16	019/07A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged under 16
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Sexual Grooming	071/17	Engage in sexual communication with a child
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Sexual Assault On A Female	020/06	Sexual assault of a female child

	Child Under 13		under 13
2026	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/25	Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity, no penetration, offender aged under 18
2026	Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences	088/15A	Sharing intimate photograph or film to cause alarm, distress or humiliation, or for sexual gratification
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Other Miscellaneous Sexual Offences	088/15A	Sharing intimate photograph or film to cause alarm, distress or humiliation, or for sexual gratification
2026	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 13	021/25	Causing or inciting a male child under 13 to engage in sexual activity, no penetration, offender aged under 18
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Sexual Assault On A Female Aged 13 And Over	020/05	Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over
2026	Sexual Assault On A Female Child Under 13	020/06	Sexual assault of a female child under 13
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Rape Of A Male Child Under 13	019/17A	Single Offender: Rape of a male child under 13 by a male

2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Sexual Activity Involving A Child Under 16	022/21	Causing or inciting a male child under 16 to engage in sexual activity, no penetration, offender aged 18 or over
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Harassment	008/30	Putting people in fear of violence
2026	Harassment	195/94	Harassment
2026	Stalking	195/12	Pursue course of conduct in breach of Sec 1 (1) which amounts to stalking
2026	Rape Of A Female Aged 16 And Over	019/08A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged 16 or over
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Blackmail	035/00	Blackmail
2026	Rape Of A Female Aged 16 And Over	019/08A	Single Offender: Rape of a female aged 16 or over
2026	Stalking	008/66	Stalking involving serious alarm/distress

2. In addition, if possible, I would like to understand this figure as a proportion of the case volume of your unit over the same period (for example, X% of cases included mention such media)

We do not hold a percentage or a figure as a proportion.

However, please find below the total occurrence count for you to work out your own calculations:

Total Occ Count 30/04/2025 – 30/04/2026
68297

3. I do not require any information on the nature of individual cases or any personal/sensitive data. However, if this information is held, it would be helpful to understand how the presence of this type of media was first identified. For example:

- **reported initially by a member of the public or complainant (i.e. at first contact),**
- **identified by police officers or staff during the course of an investigation, or**
- **introduced by a third party (for example during court proceedings, by the CPS, or via expert evidence).**

If such a breakdown is recorded, I would be grateful for any information you are able to provide. If a full breakdown is not available, any partial information would be greatly appreciated.

Our information is set up and searchable for our policing purposes. To obtain the information in the format you have requested would involve manually reviewing each record on our force system. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (FOI) Fees and Appropriate Limit regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the FOI Act 2000 the information you have requested is exempt under Section 12 (1), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) of the legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 19/05/2026