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Our Ref: FOI2017/00445

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2017/00445

I write in connection with your request for information received on 9th August. I note you seek access to the following information:

REFINED REQUEST

Thanks for your message, I will happily limit my reference terms to the last two years, and simplify my questions as follows:

Costs

1. Has your force been involved in the policing or management of any fracking or oil and gas drilling/exploration protests in the last two years?
2. How many operations, relating to the above, have your force been involved with?
3. What has been the total cost to your constabulary of policing these protests (itemised per operation is possible)
4. Have you received any outside funding, i.e. from the firms operating any drilling of fracking licences, towards the cost of the policing operation?
5. If yes, how much and from who (itemised per question 3 if possible)?

Arrests

6. How many arrests were made during the operations outlined above?
7. Who was arrested and on what grounds (here I am requesting suitably anonymised data limited to age, gender, town/city of residence, and the reason for arrest)?
8. How many of those arrested were later charged (here I am requesting suitably anonymised data limited to age, gender, town/city of residence, and the reason for arrest)?
9. Of those charged, how many cases progressed to court (here I am requesting suitably anonymised data limited to age, gender, town/city of residence, and the reason for arrest)?
10. Of the cases that progressed to court, how many defendants were found guilty of the charge against them (here I am requesting suitably anonymised data limited to age, gender, town/city of residence, and the reason for arrest)?

Use of force

11. How many reports of violence or aggression against your officers involved in the above operations have you received?
12. How many of your officers reported any injuries sustained during the operations (and what were their injuries and how were they sustained)?
13. How many official complaints have Hertfordshire Constabulary received by protesters about the operations (and what were they relating to)?
14. How many 'use of force' reports have been submitted by officers working on the operations?
15. Are officers been given any specific training before being deployed on these operations?
16. If so, what is the training?
17. If no, why not?

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

Following enquiries within the Constabulary please see our response below.

Response - We have not had to deploy officers on mutual aid around fracking in 2016 or 2017

In 2016 there was a small fracking protest outside the Letchworth Branch of Barclays at Letchworth. This was low key and monitored by local SNT incorporated within day business so there have been no costs to us around fracking

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

James Hodson
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Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Hertfordshire Constabulary if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.