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25th July 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/03596

By email only to: [nicholas.sandford-smith@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:nicholas.sandford-smith@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

Dear Mr Nicholas Sandford-Smith

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/03596**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 3rd July. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1) Does your force's PCSOs have the power to detain members of the public where a relevant offence has been identified or suspected by a PCSO (separate to a citizen's arrest under 24a Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984)?
- 2) What is the decision making regarding why your force does not, as standard, issue handcuffs to frontline PCSOs as part of their duty where this power to detain is present?
- 3) Has your force ever considered issuing PCSOs with handcuffs in the past?

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**

**Q1** – Hertfordshire Constabulary follow the National List of Standard Powers available to PCSOs (Home Office Circular 033/2007). We also follow a Local list of Discretionary Powers specifically for PSCOs within Hertfordshire. Please see the attached document detailing the information you have requested.

**Attachment** – FOI2018 03596 Annex A  
FOI2018 03596 Annex B

**Q2 and Q3** – Searches within the Constabulary failed to locate any records / documents in relation to your request. Accordingly I have determined that this information is not held by Hertfordshire Constabulary.

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

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  
Information Rights

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.