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27th June 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/02595

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/02595**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 14th May. I note you seek access to the following information:

**How many times have the Armed police be sent to incidents involving children where firearms have been drawn including baton rounds and TAZERS and after investigation, children have been in found to be in possession of Imitation Firearms shop brought firearms**

**Definition of**

**For the purposes of this FOI A child is defined as a person between 5 and 16yrs**

**Short Text:**

**I am seeking to find out how many times police are faced with Imitation Firearms in the hands of children.**

**Clarification from requester -**

**Its has been brought ot my attention that there is either no start date and/or end date in both requests.**

**For the avoidance of doubt, the dates to be used are as follows in respect of both requests**

**22.05.2017 to 11.05.2018**

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** – In the year from 22/05/2017 – 11/05/2018 there were 469 Firearms related incidents. Because our Incident Management System does not have a specific data field which would enable us to filter the incidents by the ages of those involved, we would have to read each individual incident report to ascertain whether or not each incident would have met the criteria.

We therefore, consider that the cost of complying with your request for information would exceed the appropriate limit of £450 as has been stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees & Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under Section 12 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that –

*“(1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.*

*(2) Subsection (1) does not exempt the public authority from its obligation to comply with paragraph (a) of section 1(1) unless the estimated cost of complying with that paragraph alone would exceed the appropriate limit.”*

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under Section 12 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

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.