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10th May 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/02031

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/02031

I write in connection with your request for information received on 16th April. I note you seek access to the following information:

Please provide me with the following information

1. The number of times in each of the financial years (April 1 - Mar 31) officers have attended incidents at a Sunday league football match - 2014/15; 2015/16; 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18.

2. The number of crimes your force has recorded in each of the financial years (April 1 - Mar 31) where the crime report indicates that the location was a Sunday league football match.

a. Please provide a breakdown stating for each crime i) year of the record ii) the offences recorded iii) a summary description of the circumstances of the crime - please indicate if the victim was a player, a spectator or a referee

3. The number of times in each of the financial years (April 1 - Mar 31) officers have attended incidents at a children's football match - 2014/15; 2015/16; 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18.

4. The number of crimes your force has recorded in each of the financial years (April 1 - Mar 31) where the crime report indicates that the location was a children's football match.

a. Please provide a breakdown stating for each crime i) year of the record ii) the offences recorded iii) a summary description of the circumstances of the crime - please indicate if the victim was a player, a spectator or a referee

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 – Hertfordshire Constabulary do not centrally record incidents in relation to 'Sunday league events'. To collate this information each incident that occurred within the timeframe of your request would need manually checking to see if it relates to the questions you have put forward.

Unfortunately this means it is not possible to suggest a way to refine this request, as even if the date range were reduced it would still require hundreds of records to be manually checked.

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.

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

“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.”

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Hertfordshire Constabulary, when refusing to provide such information (because the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit) to provide you the applicant with a notice which states that fact.

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

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.