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6th November 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/05778

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/05778

I write in connection with your request for information received on 11th October. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am requesting the following information under the freedom of information act:

-How many civil claims has the force received regarding spit guards or spit hoods from December 1, 2013- October 1, 2018? This includes applications against the force for failing to provide spit guards as well as for incidents involving the use of a spit hood. Please include the month and year each claim was submitted. Please indicate whether the case is ongoing or what the outcome of the case was, and brief details (including the nature of any alleged injuries and whether the claimant is an employee).

-How many civil claims has the force received with regards to equipment, kit or uniform provided to officers and staff from January 1, 2014- October 1 2018. Please include the month and year each claim was submitted. Please indicate whether the case is ongoing or what the outcome of the case was, and brief details (including the nature of any alleged injuries and whether the claimant is an employee).

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 – Number of civil claims regarding spit hoods = 0

Q2 – Number of civil claims with regards to equipment, kit or uniform provided to staff or officers = 8

Any further information would be exemption under Section 40(2) Personal Information

The Section 40 exemption is a class based absolute exemption. This means that the legislators have identified that there would be harm in disclosure and there is no need to evidence this or carry out a public interest test.

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.