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29th November 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/06398

By email only to:

Dear

**REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/06398**

I write in connection with your request for information received on 2nd November. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. Does the Hertfordshire Constabulary have allocated officers that attend/deal with wildlife crime? If so how many? Full or part time?**
- 2. How many incidents of wildlife crime in Hertfordshire have been submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service since January 2017 to date?**

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 has 3 full time WCO's (1 x Sgt & 2 x PC) they, in turn, link in with Safer Neighbourhood teams throughout the Constabulary to ensure crimes reported against wildlife are fully investigated.

They form the Rural Operational Support Team and also lead on Rural, Wildlife, Environmental and Equine Crime.

**Q2** – Please note that 'wildlife crime' is not a term recognised on our crime recording system.

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.