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9th October 2018

Our Ref: FOI2018/05058

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2018/05058

I write in connection with your request for information received on 10th September. I note you seek access to the following information:

Based on a town within which has its own response and neighbourhood officers eg Hatfield, Hertford, Stevenage etc, On how many occasions in the last year have each Station sent officers from Response / Neighbourhood to cover another station? (Should this data be too extensive, please shorten to 6 months) How many non restricted officers are there per station? How many non restricted neighbourhood officers are there per station? How many neighbourhood officers have been sent from other areas to cover Watford night time economy in the last year (Should this data be too extensive, please shorten to 6 months) In relation to the above question, which areas have lost officers? EG, Stevenage, Hatfield, Welwyn Garden City, etc? On how many occasions have the above areas lost officers to cover Watford night time economy in the last year? Overall, which area within which has a station housing response or neighbourhood officers has lost the most officers over the course of a year? Does Watford council provide extra funding or allowances to Hertfordshire Constabulary to account for other council areas losing the number of available officers?

By Non- Restricted i refer to those officers that are fully fit and able to attend incidents. Such as those not on maternity leave or due to illness and injury.

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 – The information you have requested is not centrally recorded by Hertfordshire Constabulary. We have been informed by our Resource Management Unit that it would exceed the 18 hour limit to compile this data.

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.