



Information Rights
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14th January 2020

Our Ref: FOI2019/07842

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/07842

I write in connection with your request for information received on 13th December. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am conducting research into the effect and frequency of stop and search training and stop and search positive outcomes. In order for me to obtain data to support my dissertation research I respectfully request that you provide me with the answer to the following question under a freedom of information request.

- (1) How often, excluding initial recruit training, have you provided either mandatory or non-mandatory stop and search training to your police officers in the last 12 months, 24 months 36 months. If refresher training was provided was it by means of face to face training by qualified trainers? Or via a digital training package?**
- (2) Has your force provided any face to face public training/ awareness, covering police stop and search powers e.g. A community officer delivering awareness / training to year 10-11 high school pupils. Has this taken place in a Constabulary structured and approved manner in the last 12months, 24 months 36, months**
- (3) Could you please tell me how many police officers your force had in 2017,2018 and 2019 at the time of this request**

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.

Unfortunately only initial training is centralised and carried out by L&D for this subject, L&D do not train stop & search outside of this Initial Training. Anything further would have been managed by the force as a force initiative which would then be different for each department depending on the need. Therefore in order to answer your questions we would have to make contact with all supervisors across the force to see if additional training has taken place within their department which would take over the 18 hours set out within FOI Legislation.

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.

However, I am able to provide the following information relative to your request, retrieved before the fees limit was exceeded. I hope this is helpful however; it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request. For all Police Officer numbers please see the below link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-workforce-england-and-wales>

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

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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.