

Your Reference:
Our Reference: PJ/1001968

Mary Hughes
By e-mail to:
request-24442-4560a7dd@whatdotheyknow.com

03 March 2010

IPCC Contact:
Philip Johnston
Tel: 020 7166 3000

Dear Ms Hughes,

YOUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I am sorry about the delay in replying to your e-mail of 9th December 2009.

You make the following requests:

- 1. Please can you tell me how many people complained about the Metropolitan Police between 2004 and 2008.*
- 2. I would also like to know how many of those people had reported a crime before their complaint.*

The number of complaints made against the Metropolitan Police is reported in the Commission's annual complaints statistics which can be viewed on the IPCC web site at <http://www.ipcc.gov.uk/index/resources/research/stats.htm> The IPCC has published reports for each year of its operation from 1st April 2004 up to 31st March 2009. Should you wish to see printed copies of these reports they can be provided to you on request to IPCC Enquiries at this address. As this complaints data concerning the Metropolitan Police is already published by the IPCC, this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means and, by virtue of the exemption under section 21 of the Act, the IPCC is under no obligation to provide this data to you in response to your request.

The information published in the Commission's annual statistical reports also includes details of the allegation types recorded in respect of each complaint and may go some way to answering your second question.

The IPCC holds details of only a minority of the complaints recorded each year by police forces. This is because under the Police Reform Act 2002, the IPCC becomes involved in police complaint cases only in certain circumstances. Therefore, the IPCC does not hold the information that would enable it to answer the second part of your request and if you wish to find out more about the background of the complaints that have been made against the Metropolitan Police since 2004 I would recommend that you contact the Metropolitan Police directly.

March 3, 2010

If you are not satisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review by our FOI appeals officer, who has had no involvement in dealing with your request. If you wish to complain about any aspect of this decision, please contact:

Freedom of Information Act Complaints
IPCC
90 High Holborn
London
WC1V 6BH

E mails should be clearly marked 'Complaint against FOI decision' and sent to: foi@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk.

Should you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner; however, I should point out that under section 50(2)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, you are normally obliged to exhaust the public authority's own internal complaint mechanism before complaining to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Philip Johnston
Independent Police Complaints Commission