



**Kent
Police**



Mr. Mark Wilding
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Date: 3 May 2018
FOI Ref: 18/04/452

Dear Mr. Wilding,

Freedom of Information Request 18/04/452

I write in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 9 April 2018.

Please provide the number of arrests made under the Psychoactive Substances Act since May 2016, broken down by month and by the offence suspected of being committed. This information should be available by conducting a search of the NSPIS for CJS codes that begin with 'PS160'.

Please also provide the number of these arrests where nitrous oxide was the substance in question. This information should be available by searching the above records for the following terms:

Laughing gas

Nitrous oxide

NOS

NO2

Canisters

Gas canisters

Balloons

Please provide the requested data in Excel format.

Offences under the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 are outlined at the following link:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2016/2/crossheading/offences/enacted>

A search was performed for any such offences, which are provided in the attached appendix; please consider the information notices highlighted in red when analysing the data.

Thank you for your interest in Kent Police. If you have any queries about your request or the application of the Freedom of Information Act generally, please contact this office quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Muggridge

FOI Legal Administrator

Your right to appeal

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but, if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to appeal. We will conduct an internal review to investigate the matter and endeavour to reply within 20 working days. If your appeal concerns the decision to apply an exemption, it would assist the review if you would outline why you believe the exemption does not apply.

You may lodge your appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information
Kent Police Headquarters
Sutton Road,
Maidstone
Kent
ME15 9BZ

Or by e-mailing freedomofinformation@kent.pnn.police.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right under section 50 of the Act to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner who would normally expect you to have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by Kent Police.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Compliance Team (complaints)
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF