



Our Ref: 2585/22

Your Ref: FOI request

Address Correspondence to: Hannah Forman, Information Management

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Dear Mr Garner

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), received on 08/08/2022 in which you requested the following information: -

*I would like to know how many times your officers' attendance was requested to aid in a tv licence investigation.*

*I am aware that Capita employs the 'TV Licence Enforcement Officers' and they are a private company, but the police do need to honour info requests.*

*So please provide the amount of times your officers were requested to attend to aid a tv licence enforcement officer or requested to help prevent a breach of the peace.*

*I would like numbers for the last 5 years, but will accept the latest full year of complete numbers you can provide.*

I can confirm, pursuant to s1(1)(a) of FOIA that this Force does hold the information you have requested.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Leicestershire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption(s) applicable to the information are as follows.

**Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.**

Unfortunately the information you have requested is not available in a readily retrievable format – this is not a matter the Force specifically request information on and to check for relevant incidents would necessitate a manual check of all records held. It may be worth making enquiries with TV licensing directly to see if they hold any information relating to the number or police call outs/attendance.

In order for the Force to retrieve the information you have requested would therefore be in excess of the 18 hours specified by the Home Office as the time period for which a police force should allocate to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004, the current regulatory limit which has been set by the Secretary of State for public authorities, which includes the police service, is £450 for the marginal costs which are the costs of finding, sorting, editing or redacting information and disbursements (printing, photocopying etc). The Association of Chief Police Officers have agreed a national standard of an hourly rate of £25 is to be charged for the time taken. In essence therefore, the costs equate to 18 hours work per request. It will be apparent therefore that within the time frame of 18 hours it will not be possible to extract the information to answer any of your questions.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under s12(1) as the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to the Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*Hannah Forman*

Hannah Forman  
Disclosure Manager  
Leicestershire Police