



Stephanie Whitley
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Direct line
020 7601 2287

Your ref:
Our ref:
FOI2020/01175

2nd December 2020

Dear Ms Whitley,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REF: FOI2020/01175

I write in connection with your request for information dated 2nd November in which you seek access to the information stated:

Over the last 5 years the amount of requests the force has received from TV Licensing/Capita to attend a property to assist with executing a search warrant/prevent a breach of the peace. If possible I would appreciate the total requests actually attended by officers or declined by the force and all broken down by year.

A copy of any guidance/policy/documents relating to assisting TV Licensing (or any private corporations including, but not limited to: Bailiffs, TVL, Councils etc) when attending a property to enforce a warrant, such as deployment criteria, role of impartiality at scene etc.

Over the same period broken down by year, the amount of incidents where the words TV Licence/TV Licensing or BBC are reported and the reason for report, i.e. harassment, assault etc.

Please accept this letter as an acknowledgement of receipt of your request, which has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). (FOIA)

DECISION

The City of London Police (COLP) are unable to answer your request as the information requested cannot be collated within the timeframe/cost threshold set out by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Act Fees Regulations 2004.

Section 12 1(1)

Please note that any requests made from TV Licensing/Capita would be recorded under the requestor's name, rather than company. As such, to accurately retrieve the data sought would involve a manual review of all incident call-out reports recorded by CoLP in the last 5 years. Therefore, I estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit. For agencies outside of central Government, this is set at £450 and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours [at a rate of £25 per hour] determining whether the public authority holds the information. This also includes locating, retrieving and extracting the information requested. This email constitutes a formal Refusal Notice for this request. A full explanation of this decision, including the relevant sections of the Act and the Fees Regulations, is given in the Legal Annex below.

Also, please note that no specific guidance is held in regards to assisting TV Licensing or any affiliated companies in the execution of warrants.

I have also conducted a keyword search on our crime recording system where the words 'TV Licensing' TV Licence' and 'BBC' are mentioned in the occurrence summary of each report for the last 5 years and no relevant results were returned.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request or the decision which has been reached, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests must be submitted within two months of the date of this response and should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information
Information Management Services
Bishopsgate Police Station
182 Bishopsgate
EC2M 4NP
E-mail: foi@city-of-london.pnn.police.uk

Please mark your complaint clearly and remember to quote the reference number in all correspondence. You have the right to ask the Information Commissioner (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning his investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Chardakov