



Our Ref: 0601.2020-21
Date: 05th November 2020

Civil Disclosure
Joint Corporate Legal Services

Dear Applicant,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 0601.2020-21

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by North Yorkshire Police on 03rd November 2020. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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.
- 3) 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.

Extent of Searches to Locate Information

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within North Yorkshire Police to locate relevant information.

Decision

I am not obliged to provide you with a response to your request pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). Please note that when one part of your request falls under Section 12, we are not obliged to review the rest of the questions and the whole request is therefore exempt.

Section 12(1) applies to your request as the cost of complying with your request is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of identifying and retrieving any relevant information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

Jane Wintermeyer BSc (Hons) Force Solicitor & Head of Legal Services
Police Headquarters | Alverton Court | Crosby Road | Northallerton | North Yorkshire | DL6 1BF
DX No 68810 NORTHALLERTON 2 | Telephone 01609 643542 | Fax 01609 789987

Non-emergency
Number



Due to the nature of our recording systems the information requested, if held, is not in an easily retrievable format.

In relation to questions 1 & 3. Search warrants and breach of the peace incidents are not easily extractable fields from our crime recording systems. Therefore all breach of the peace offences would need to be manually read for the last 5 years to determine if they were relating to a request from TV licensing/capita. This would involve reading through over a large number of reports, which would exceed the time limit allowed under the Act.

Pursuant to Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Act I am required to offer you advice and assistance with regarding to refining your request to within the 'appropriate limit' (time/cost limit). However, due to the information provided above I am unable to suggest how you may refine your request and still received the information within the cost threshold. Please note that a search was made in respect of question 2 and no specific Policies or Procedures were found. If you wish to discuss this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please note that systems used for recording information are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted therefore that this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other responses you may receive.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet which details your right of complaint.

If you have any queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Chris Buckton
Legal Officer (Civil Disclosure)
Joint Corporate Legal Services

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to request that North Yorkshire Police review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision North Yorkshire Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with North Yorkshire Police to have the decision reviewed. North Yorkshire Police must be notified of your intention to complain within 2 months of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Force Solicitor and Head of Legal Services
North Yorkshire Police
Alverton Court
Crosby Road
Northallerton
North Yorkshire
DL6 1BF

In all possible circumstances North Yorkshire Police will aim to respond to your complaint as soon as practicable but within 20 working days.

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with North Yorkshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk> Alternatively, phone: 0303 123 1113 or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF