

PROTECT PERSONAL

Our Ref: 126.2016-17

Your Ref:

Date: 27th May 2016



Police and Crime
Commissioner
North Yorkshire



J James

[request-332832-](#)

72690b9c@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear J James

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST NO: 126.2016-17

I write in connection with your request for information to North Yorkshire Police. I note you seek access to the following information:

Re: Civil Action Against Peter Hofschroer, Nigel Ward & Tim Hicks

Please advise the total expenditure in legal costs so far in bringing the above case to court with taxpayers' money. Please state the costs incurred from the date that a decision was made to bring this matter to court until the time that you respond to this FOI.

The legal expenditure is to include both monies paid and owing to external legal representatives and their agents for their services and expenses, including all matters such as photocopying, etc, and costs incurred with internal legal counsel inside North Yorkshire Police, the Police & Crime commissioner, and the council.

By "so far" I mean to the date that you ACTUALLY RESPOND to this request.

Please also advise the total costs incurred "so far" - meaning the date the date that you ACTUALLY RESPOND to this request - in police, civilian employee, and internal legal department time, and a breakdown of the number of man hours expended in each category.

Please advise how much of these costs will be paid by the seven or so civilian plaintiffs, and give a breakdown by plaintiff.

Extent and Result of Searches to Locate Information

To locate the information relevant to your request, searches were conducted within North Yorkshire Police. Some of the information you have requested is held by North Yorkshire Police and is disclosed below. Some information is not held, and this is explained further below.

Decision

I have linked your request to the following decision notice:

PROTECT PERSONAL

Jane Wintermeyer BSc (Hons) Acting Force Solicitor & Head of Legal Services
Police Headquarters | Newby Wiske Hall | Northallerton | North Yorkshire | DL7 9HA
DX No 68810 NORTHALLERTON 2 | Telephone 01609 789297 | Fax 01609 789987

Non-emergency
Number



PROTECT PERSONAL

<http://www.northyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/taking-action/making-decisions/decisions-made/0112015-formal-support-and-explanation-from-the-police-and-crime-commissioner-regarding-the-funding-of-ongoing-civil-litigation-action-to-protect-officers-and-members-of-the-public-against-alleged-p/>

As at the date of your request, 4th May 2016, the costs incurred by North Yorkshire Police in the civil case were as follows:

- External Solicitor costs (including court fees and other disbursements) - £161,546.06
- Counsel costs - £45,260

Joint Corporate Legal Services as a Department are providing advice to both the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and North Yorkshire Police in any matters connected to this case. External solicitors are advising the individual claimants in the case and their costs and fees are given above.

Staff and officer time in dealing with this civil matter is not recorded as a matter of routine course and so there is no recorded information held in response to that element of your question.

North Yorkshire Police is funding this action, as is described in the above decision notice, and so there is no recorded information as to the amounts to be funded by the claimants.

Complaint Rights

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

Yours sincerely

Emma Morris
Police Lawyer (Civil Disclosure)
Joint Corporate Legal Services

PROTECT PERSONAL

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 require the North Yorkshire Police to 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 of the North Yorkshire Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with the 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
Newby Wiske Hall
Northallerton
North Yorkshire
DL7 9HA

In all possible circumstances the 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 the 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 www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700