

Our Ref: 0104.2020-21 Date: 4 June 2020

Civil Disclosure Joint Corporate Legal Services

Dear Applicant,

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 0104.2020-21

I write in connection with your refinement request for information which was received by North Yorkshire Police on 4 June 2020. I note you seek access to the following information:

I am not particularly surprised this is hard to access data. Could I narrow my request to just expenditure on contracted out forensic sciences services for as many years as easily accessible. I have had a number of forces able to give me this ranging from 2 to 5 years. This would just be the sum of invoices paid to any private companies that have done forensic science related investigation on behalf of the force. Would this be possible?

## **Extent and Result of Searches to Locate Information**

To locate the information relevant to your request searches were conducted within North Yorkshire Police.

I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by North Yorkshire Police.

### **Decision**

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you.

In relation to contracted out forensic science services expenditure from the financial years 2016/17 - 2019/20 please see the below.

2016/17 - £1,012,014 2017/18 - £1,047,680 2018/19 - £975,805 2019/20 - £892,029





Please note some of these figures may relate to bills paid to West Yorkshire Police as a result of outsourced forensic work they have incurred on our behalf and as such it could possibly be that both North Yorkshire Police and West Yorkshire Police have included the information in both our responses.

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

Sam Allon 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