



Information Management

Freedom Of Information

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Email: foi@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.westyorkshire.police.uk

Our ref: 1979/17

Date: 22/05/17

Dear Mr Guy,

Thank you for your request for information, received by West Yorkshire Police on 24/04/17.

You requested the following information:

The information I'm requesting is for listed departments below to which i would like; The name of role, FTE and pay grade of the employees in each department (Inc. Officers, Civilians and PCSO's).

*Neighbourhood Policing
Incident (Response) Management
Specialist Community Liaison
Local Command Team*

*Front Desk
Central Communications Unit
Dealing with the Public Command Team*

*Custody
Police doctors/nurses & surgeons
Other custody
Criminal Justice
Police National Computer
Criminal Record Bureau (now called Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)) Coroner Assistance Fixed
Penalty Schemes (Central Ticket Office) Property Officer / Stores Criminal Justice Arrangements
Command Team*

*Traffic Units
Traffic wardens / Police Community Support Officers - Traffic Vehicle Recovery Casualty Reduction
Partnership Road policing Command Team*

*Operational Support Team
Air Operations
Mounted Police
Specialist Terrain
Dogs Section
Advanced Public Order
Airport & Ports Policing Unit
Firearms Unit*

*Civil Contingencies and Planning
Events*

*Intelligence Command Team
Intelligence Analysis / Threat Assessments Intelligence Gathering*

*Investigations Command Team
Major Investigation Unit
Economic Crime (including Regional Asset Recovery Team) Specialist Investigation Units Serious &
Organised Crime Unit Public Protection (included CSE and Domestic Abuse) Local
Investigation/Prisoner Processing Cyber Crime*

*Scenes of Crime Officers
External Forensic
Fingerprint
Photographic Image Recovery
Other Forensic Services
Investigative Support Command Team*

*Counter Terrorism / Special Branch
ACPO Projects / Initiatives
Hosting National Services
Other National Policing Requirements*

*Human Resources
Finance
Legal Services
Fleet Services
Estates / Central Building
Information Communication Technology
Professional Standards
Press and Media
Performance Review / Corporate Development Procurement Training Administration Support Force
Command Support to Associations and Trade Unions Social Club Support and Force band Insurance /
Risk Management Catering Other*

West Yorkshire Police is unable to answer your request as it is considered to be vexatious.

The Information Commissioner's Office Guidance sets out a number of criteria relevant to the identification of a request as vexatious.

The Commissioner's general approach will be sympathetic towards authorities where a request, which may be the latest in a series of requests, would impose a significant burden and:

- Clearly does not have any serious purpose or value;
- Is designed to cause disruption or annoyance;
- Has the effect of harassing the public authority; or
- Can otherwise fairly be characterised as obsessive or manifestly unreasonable.

Please see the below guidance on vexatious or repeated requests:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>

West Yorkshire Police is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.

In making my decision I have noted that the request is asking for a substantial amount of information whilst easily accessible, to assess whether this information is exempt from disclosure or not would

involve a large amount of research and consultation with various individuals, districts and departments within the force. West Yorkshire Police have 9,524 employees, to assess each individual to ensure that I am not breaching any of the data protection principles would take an inordinate amount of time. In addition it is known that Police Forces have covert officers/roles, thus this would also form part of my assessment, as inadvertent disclosure of individuals could compromise Law Enforcement by educating the criminal fraternity as to how many covert Officers we have and their details. I believe a disproportionate amount of time is required to establish if information should be exempted and would impose a significant burden on several departments and individuals within the Police Force, at a conservative estimate of one minute per individual this would take in excess of 158 hours to assess.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

If you are not satisfied with how this request has been handled or with the information provided, please read the advice notice attached to this letter. If you do wish to take up your right of complaint, please remember to quote the reference number above, in any future correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Howcroft
Disclosure Officer

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 creates a statutory right of access to information held by public authorities. A public authority in receipt of a request must, if permitted, state under Section 1(a) of the Act, whether it holds the requested information and, if held, then communicate that information to the applicant under Section 1(b) of the Act.

The right of access to information is not without exception and is subject to a number of exemptions which are designed to enable public authorities, to withhold information that is unsuitable for release. Importantly the Act is designed to place information into the public domain. Information is granted to one person under the Act, it is then considered public information and must be communicated to any individual, should a request be received.

DECISION

Your request for information has been considered and I regret to inform you that West Yorkshire Police cannot comply. This letter serves as a Refusal Notice under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 17 of the Act provides:

(1) A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is to any extent relying on a claim that information is exempt information must, within the time for complying with Section 1(1), give the applicant a notice which:-

- (a) States the fact,
- (b) Specifies the exemption in question, and
- (c) States (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

REASONS FOR DECISION

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Section 14 - Vexatious

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ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE

Under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, my duty to provide advice and assistance to persons who have made request for information, you may find the following information of use:

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/chiefofficerteam>

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/npt>

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/about-us/publication-scheme/who-we-are-and-what-we-do>

Please note that police forces do not use generic systems or identical procedures for capturing the data. For these reasons this response to your questions, should not be used for comparison purposes with responses you may have received from other police forces.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

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

You have the right to request that West Yorkshire Police review their decision. Prior to lodging a formal complaint, we encouraged that you discuss the decision with the case officer that has dealt with your request.

2. 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.

3. Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of West Yorkshire Police, made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a written complaint to have the decision internally reviewed.

A West Yorkshire Police internal review of your decision, will be carried out by a senior member of staff who is fully trained in interpreting Freedom of Information legislation. The review will be independent conducted, regardless to the original decision made.

Complaints will only be treated as valid, if they are received by West Yorkshire Police within a 60 day timeframe from the date of the decision letter. They must include the original FOI Reference Number and can only be submitted in writing, by using the following contact details:

foi@westyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

or

West Yorkshire Police
FOI Internal Reviews
PO Box 9
Laburnum Road
Wakefield
WF1 3QP

In all possible circumstances, West Yorkshire Police will aim to complete and respond to your internal review within 20 working days. However this date may be extended in exceptional circumstances, by another 20 working days.

4. The Information Commissioner

If you are still dissatisfied with the internal review decision, made by West Yorkshire Police. You can then make an 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, you can phone their helpline or write to them at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

FOI Help Line: 0303 1231113