



**Kent
Police**



Mr. Ben Quinn
[request-599184-
b71f00b8@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Direct Line: 01622 652610
E-mail: freedomofinformation@kent.police.uk

Date: 14 January 2020
FOI Ref: 19/08/1271

Dear Mr. Quinn,

Freedom of Information Request 19/08/1271

I write in response to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 23 August 2019.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide the following details for each of the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and (up to the date of this request) 2019:

- 1) The number of civil actions against the force where settlements have been reached / the amount of money paid in each case*
- 2) The number of threatened civil actions against the force where settlements have been reached / the amount of money paid in each case*
- 3) A category description for each case above where settlements were reached (eg. misconduct)*

Unfortunately the request engages the exemption at Section 12(1) FOIA. Section 12 provides an exemption from a public authority's obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the appropriate limit. The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 state that the appropriate cost limit is 18 hours in the case of the Police Service.

The reason for this is that the information requested cannot be retrieved by automated means, and would instead require the manual review of each individual file to determine any subsequent outcomes. For the period requested this will involve over 350 files requiring an extensive manual review and is estimated to exceed the 18 working hour limit.

Ordinarily under Section 16 of the Act we would be required to offer advice and assistance in order to try and bring a request within cost, however in this case even for a single year the level of work required will exceed the 18 working hour limit.

I apologise that this reaches you outside of the twenty working day limit, but thank you for your interest in Kent Police. If you have any queries about your request or the application of the Freedom of Information Act generally, please contact this office quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Muggridge

Public Disclosure Officer

Your right to appeal

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have 40 working days from the date the response is issued to request that Kent Police carry out an internal review.

If your request for a review concerns the decision to apply an exemption, it would assist if you would outline why you believe the exemption does not apply.

Kent Police will acknowledge receipt of any request for a review and aim to respond as soon as practicable, in most cases within 20 working days of receipt. If the review will not be completed in this timescale, you will be informed.

You may lodge your request for a review in writing:

Our email address is: freedomofinformation@kent.police.uk

Our postal address is:

Freedom of Information
Coldharbour,
London Road,
Aylesford,
Kent,
ME20 7SL

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right under section 50 of the Act to appeal directly to the Information Commissioner who would normally expect you to have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by Kent Police.

For information on how to appeal to the Information Commissioner please visit the website at www.ico.org.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
0303 123 1113