



Our Ref: 1291.2018-19

Your Ref:

Date: 23 April 2019

Civil Disclosure
Joint Corporate Legal Services

Dear Applicant,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 1291.2018-19

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by North Yorkshire Police on 13 February 2019. Please accept our apologies for the delay in providing you with a response. I note you seek access to the following information:

If you use the Home Office Counting Rules, please use 8/72: 'Sending letters etc with intent to cause anxiety.' Again, I would like the number of arrests and charges per annum from 2003 to date. I understand that this may not have been a notifiable crime prior to 2015, but I would still like the number of arrests and numbers in custody prior to this time, categorised under this 8/72 counting rule; as well as the crime count for 2015 to date (as well as arrest and charge count – just to clarify).

Please ignore the part of the FOI requesting information on prosecution. I will attempt to request this separately from HMCTS.

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.

1. Please find below the number of recorded crimes since 2015 under 8/72: 'Sending letters etc with intent to cause anxiety.'

Year	Total	Year	Total
2015	69	2018	951
2016	201	2019	221
2017	346	Total	1,788

The following information has been provided from 2008, as this is when our current crime database commenced.

2. Please find below the number of arrests.

Arrests	Send communication / article of an indecent / offensive nature	Send letter / communication / article conveying a threatening message	Send letter / communication / article conveying false information	Send letter / communication / article conveying indecent / offensive message	Total
2008	1	5	0	0	6
2009	1	1	1	1	4
2010	1	8	1	1	11
2011	3	7	3	2	15
2012	2	3	1	2	8
2013	0	3	0	1	4
2014	2	2	0	0	4
2015	2	0	1	1	4
2016	2	7	1	2	12
2017	3	2	1	5	11
2018	0	4	0	3	7
2019	0	0	0	1	1
Total	17	42	9	19	87

3. Please find below the number of charges. Please note, if a person has been charged for more than one offence, they will be counted twice.

Charges	Send communication / article of an indecent / offensive nature	Send letter / communication / article conveying a threatening message	Send letter / communication / article conveying false information	Send letter / communication / article conveying indecent / offensive message	Total
2008	1	5	0	0	6
2009	1	2	0	1	4
2010	2	3	0	1	6
2011	2	3	3	2	10
2012	1	6	0	1	8
2013	1	9	0	2	12
2014	1	7	0	2	10
2015	1	13	0	0	14
2016	2	18	2	3	25
2017	4	5	0	2	11
2018	2	7	0	0	9
2019	0	4	0	0	4
Total	18	82	5	14	119

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

Caroline Williams
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