

"Delivering Safety and Security for Our Customers"

Our ref: FOI 2020-045 11th February 2020

Request-643062-b459cd63@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear John Brown,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act request dated 4th February 2020 in which you requested:

Dear Port of Dover Police,

How many Special Constables do you have?

From 2013 until 2020 how many new entrants has there been with people leaving?

What allowances are offered to Specials-if any supply guidelines for claiming, please?

In response to your Freedom of Information Act request, I would draw your attention to:-

Port of Dover Police Officers are nominated and appointed as 'special constables' under section 79 of the Harbours, Docks and Piers clauses Act of 1847 which was subsequently modified by Part IV of the Dover Harbour Revision Order 2006 (S.I. 2167) and section 7 of the Marine Navigation Act 2013.

Schedule 1, Part V, Section 64 of the Freedom of Information Act which applies to:-Any person who-

- (a) By virtue of any enactment has the function of nominating individuals who may be appointed as special constables by Justices of the Peace, and,
- (b) Is not a public authority by virtue of any other provision of the Act, in respect of information relating to the exercise by any person appointed on his nomination of the functions of a special constable.

This section has the effect of applying the responsibility under the Freedom of Information Act to the Dover Harbour Board (The Port Authority who nominate and subsequently fund the Port of Dover Police), but the said responsibility is only to disclose information, if available, that relates to the functions of a constable, the obligation is no wider than that. In addition, the Dover Harbour Board is not a public authority for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act and as such is not bound by the general requirements of the Act.

It should be noted that the Port of Dover Police is a non-Home Office Constabulary that is funded entirely by the Port Authority, Dover Harbour Board, to provide a general policing service at the Port of Dover. Port of

Dover Police are not responsible for border security. This function is undertaken by Border Agency and Kent Police Frontier Operations.

The information that you requested, and that we hold is as follows:

The Port of Dover Police do not and have not used Special Constables.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your FOI request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original request.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Walter Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

PORT OF DOVER POLICE

G. Daubney
Police Constable