



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

Mr Matt Spencer
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Norfolk Constabulary

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17th March 2014

Dear Mr Spencer

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 720/13/14

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 17th February 2014 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many officers are trained to use a TASER?
- 2 How many officers have failed the 3-day TASER training course?
- 3 How many officers have taken the one-day refresher TASER training course?
- 4 What are the reasons an officer would take a refresher course?
- 5 How many officers have been disciplined in relation to their use of a TASER?
- 6 How many officers that have passed the TASER training course have had their usage of TASERS revoked/restricted/prohibited?
- 7 How many TASERS does your police force hold?
- 8 How many TASERS does your police force routinely carry on patrol?
- 9 How many times has a TASER been fired, excluding training?
- 10 How many times has a TASER been used, excluding training?
- 11 How many times has a TASER hit it's target?
- 12 How many times has a TASER hit someone unintentionally?
- 13 How many times, if any, has a TASER been used, which has not followed procedures laid out in the National Decision Model?
- 14 How many times was the TASER used in the following modes in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014:
 - A discharge;
 - B arced;
 - C drive-stun;
 - D red-dot;
 - E aimed;
 - F not stated;
- 15 How many times has a TASER been used on animals and also what animals were they?
- 16 How many officers trained to use TASER hold criminal offences?
- 17 How many officers trained to use TASER hold firearm related criminal offences?
- 18 How many officers trained to use TASER have been disciplined due to their use of firearms?
- 19 Are all officers trained to use TASER also fully trained as an AFO? If not, how many officers are trained to use TASER that are not also AFO's?
- 20 How much does it cost to train an officer to use TASER?
- 21 How much does it cost to train an officer to become an AFO?
- 22 How many Police Officers do you currently employ?

- 23 How many AFOs will be deployed at any given time?
24 How many TASER trained officers will be deployed at any given time?
25 How many people have received long term injury after being hit with a TASER by an officer in your region?

- If the information is not available or needs clarification then disregard the question.
- Could all questions be answered to these dates, in this order of importance, 1st January – Present 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010. If not all years can be answered please stick to most recent, 2012 – Present.
- If a question is deemed to exceed costs please ignore it and only answer those which are possible
- Please answer all questions in relation to Norfolk Constabulary.

Norfolk Constabulary holds information relevant to your request.

Response to your Request

Norfolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

Providing data in relation to questions 11 and 12 would exceed the 18 hour cost limit therefore as requested we have continued with the remainder of your questions.

Q1 There are currently 164 officers trained in the use of Taser.

Q2 No officers have failed the 3 day Taser training course.

Q3&4 All Authorised Firearms Officers are required to take an annual one day Taser refresher course.

Q5 No relevant information held.

Q6 No relevant information held.

Q7 326 Tasers are currently held.

Q8 This information is not held. Due to the various duty patterns of trained officers, it is not possible to confirm the number of officers who are routinely equipped. All officers who are authorised for operational deployment with Tasers are expected to carry them when on duty.

Q11&12 – Section 12 – Exceed costs.

Q13 No relevant information held.

Q9, 10 & 14 The number of times that a Taser has been used is published on the Home Office website. The figures for April 2004 to March 2010 are currently published.

Under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information that is reasonably accessible to the public by other means, in this case via the Norfolk Constabulary website; therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for this part of your request. Please use the links below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115672/taser-s-table1.xls

Taser use is also published by quarter for the year 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010, see below link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115673/all-taser-use-csv.xls

In addition, all Taser use, Taser use by quarter, Taser use by specially trained units 2007/2010; Taser use by specially trained unit 2007-2010 by quarter and the same for 2009-2011 are published at the below link:

<http://data.gov.uk/dataset/recorded-use-taser-england-wales>

We have been informed that the latest figures are due to be published on the Home Office website on 27th March 2014.

Under Section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information if that information is held with a view to its publication at some future date (whether determined or not) AND it is reasonable in all circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date of its publication. In this case the intended date of publication is less than 1 month from the date the response to your request is due. To insist upon publication in advance of the proposed date would be unreasonable as it would place an additional burden on the Constabulary in order to meet an earlier deadline. The Constabulary has concluded that the conditions of Section 22(1) apply and therefore, in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

Q15 to 18 - No relevant information held.

Q19 Not all officers trained to use a Taser are also fully trained Authorised Firearms Officers. There are currently 35 Taser trained officers who are not AFOs.

Q20 This information is not held.

Q21 This information is not held.

Q22 As at 31st January 2014, there were 1,602 officers within Norfolk Constabulary.

Q23 This information is not held as it would depend on the requirements of each incident/deployment.

Q24 As above.

Q25 No relevant information held.

This response will be published on the Norfolk Constabulary's web-site www.norfolk.police.uk under the Freedom of Information pages at [Publication Scheme - Disclosure Logs](#).

Should you have any further queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number shown above.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Gibson
Freedom of Information Department

A full copy of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) can be viewed on the 'Office of Public Sector Information' web-site;
<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/>

The Norfolk Constabulary is not responsible for the content, or the reliability, of the website referenced. The Constabulary cannot guarantee that this link will work all of the time, and we have no control over the availability of the linked pages.

Your Right to Request a Review of Decisions Made Under the Terms of the
Freedom of Information Act (2000).

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled, or if you think the decision is incorrect, you have the right to ask the Norfolk Constabulary to review their decision.

Ask the Norfolk Constabulary to look at the decision again.

If you are dissatisfied with the decision made by the Norfolk Constabulary under the Freedom of Information Act (2000), regarding access to information, you must notify the Norfolk Constabulary that you are requesting a review within 2 months of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Requests for a review should be made in writing and addressed to:

*Freedom of Information Decision Maker
Professional Standards Department
Norfolk Constabulary
Operations and Communications Centre
Jubilee House
Falconers Chase
Wymondham
Norfolk NR18 0WW
OR
Email: freedomofinformation@norfolk.pnn.police.uk*

In all possible circumstances the Norfolk Constabulary will aim to respond to your request for us to look at our decision again within 20 working days of receipt of your request for an internal review.

The Information Commissioner.

After lodging a request for a review with the Norfolk Constabulary, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you can apply 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 www.ico.org.uk or contact them at the address shown below:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700