



Thames Valley Police
Chief Constable Francis Habgood QPM

Headquarters
Oxford Road
Kidlington
Oxfordshire
OX5 2NX

Mr L Ward

Telephone: 101
Direct dial: 01865 542051
Email: publicaccess@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Our ref: HQ/PA/002369/17
Your ref:

4 September 2017

Dear Mr Ward

I write in response to the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted on 17 August 2017. Thames Valley Police has now considered this request, which for clarity, has been repeated below:

<u>Request</u>	<u>Response</u>
<p>Dear Thames Valley Police,</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of the Office of Keith Taylor MEP; I would like to make the following updated request relating to the cost of policing of any fracking, oil and/or gas drilling/exploration protests and opposition in your constabulary in the last five years - 12 months if you deem five years to be too burdensome, cost-wise.</p> <p>The questions should follow logically and should not prove too burdensome to answer. I have tried to be as clear as possible, but please let me know at the earliest possible opportunity if you require any clarifications.</p> <p>I am requesting all of the information in digital form, an excel file for data is preferred to graphs and tables embedded within pdf files.</p> <p>Can you please provide the answers to</p>	<p>This request is being refused under Section 14(2) of the FOIA:</p> <p>Section 14 of the FOIA allows that a public authority is not required to respond to a repeat request. The terms under which this request is considered to be a repeat request are as follows:</p> <p>Repeat requests are defined by Section 14 – ‘where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonably interval has elapsed’.</p> <p>The request (though split between several emails this time instead of one) is substantially similar in that it only omits the need for a few detailed breakdowns. These minor omissions</p>



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the following questions, in every case I am asking for details within the last five years and by 'drilling' I mean shale gas exploration, conventional and unconventional oil and gas drilling:

1. Have there been any licences granted for drilling in your constabulary?
2. Have there been any licences granted for drilling in your constabulary that has required your force to deploy officers to manage/police any opposition/protests in relation to those drilling licences?
3. If yes, in relation to which licences and sites has officers from your force been employed?
4. How many officers have been on-site to police protests since the first deployment until the present day - a cumulative total is requested?
5. Have all of the officers on-site been from the Thames Valley Constabulary?
6. If not, from which constabularies and in what numbers were officers drafted?
7. Which force was responsible for covering the cost of bringing in officers from outside the Thames Valley Constabulary?
8. What has the total cost been, so far, to the Thames Valley Constabulary, for bringing in officers from outside the Thames Valley Constabulary?

1. How many staff hours in total, from the first deployment until the time of this request, has been diverted to policing the aforementioned protests?
2. How many Thames Valley Constabulary officers have been taken from other, regular duties to police the protests?
3. How many Thames Valley Constabulary officers are working overtime to cover the protests?
4. What is the highest

do nothing to address the root cause of Thames Valley's previous refusal of the request on cost grounds. The requester appears not to have taken into account the explanation given by Thames Valley Police for its previous refusal.

The request was also made within days of the original refusal.



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payment/remuneration paid to an officer for one shift covering the protest, including any bonus or overtime payments? How long was said shift?

5. What is the average amount of extra/bonus/overtime remuneration paid to all of the officers who have been responsible for policing these sites?

6. What has been the total cost to the Thames Valley Constabulary for the policing of drilling sites, from first deployment until the time of this request?

7. How much have the firm/s operating the licence/s paid the Thames Valley Constabulary to cover the cost of the policing efforts?

1. How many arrests have been made during the policing operation at the site/s? (Can arrestee details be categorized by age, gender, and town/city of residence, please?) 2. What were the grounds of each arrest?

3. How many of those arrested were later charged? (Can the details of those charged be categorized by age, gender, and town/city of residence, please?) 4.

Of those charged, how many cases progressed to court? (Can the details of the people in those cases be categorized by age, gender, and town/city of residence, please?) 5. How many charges were dropped before any court appearance? (Can the details of those charged, whose charges were later dropped, be categorized by age, gender, and town/city of residence, please?) 6.

Of the cases that progressed to court, how many defendants were found guilty of the charge against them? (Can the plea of the defendant, their age, gender, and town/city of residence also be provided, please?)



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How many reports of violence or aggression against your officers have you received - in relation to the policing of the site/s?2. Have any of your officers reported any injuries sustained during the policing of the site/s?3. If so, what were their injuries and how were they sustained?4. How many official complaints have the Thames Valley Constabulary received by protesters and local residents about the policing of their activities at the site/s?5. What were the complaints relating to?6. How many 'use of force' reports have been submitted by officers at the site/s? (I would like the day as the number of reports per day, from the first deployment until the present day)7. Can you provide any further details of the nature of the force detailed in the reports? If so, what force was used against protesters?8. What equipment are officers permitted to use in the course of their policing at the site/s (i.e. batons, cuffs, spray, etc.)?9. How often has the Thames Valley Constabulary had cause to use any of that equipment, and what specifically, since first deployment at the site/s and the date of this request?10. Are officers been given any specific training before being deployed on the site/s for the first time?11. If so, what is the training?12. If no, why not?
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Does the Thames Valley Constabulary have any specific guidelines relating to the policing of protests at the site/s - particularly relating to 'slow walking' protests?2. If so, what are those guidelines and how were they communicated to protesters? | |
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3. Is there a record of the number of times protesters broke those guidelines and what action was taken? 4. If yes, please provide those details.	
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Complaint Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Thames Valley Police, you can lodge a complaint with the force to have the decision reviewed within two months of the date of this response. Complaints should be made in writing to the FOI inbox; publicaccess@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

If, after lodging a complaint with Thames Valley Police, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

If you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely

Darren Humphries
Public Access
Joint Information Management Unit