

S Rhosier

Our Ref: FOI\_5401\_RHOSIER

Date: 29 November 2019

By E-mail: [request-618549-76073525@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-618549-76073525@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Sir / Madam

**RE: FOI REQUEST - HUNTING**

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('FOIA') dated 9 November 2019 which was received by this office on 11 November 2019.

I note you seek access to the following information:

1. Please provide the list of priorities, by type of crime, which your force is instructed to abide by when allocating investigative resource; specifically to include the priorities of social media crime, wildlife crime, domestic terrorism, and breaches of the Hunting Act.
2. I note that breaches of the Hunting Act are not recordable crimes as per the police/Home Office Orange Book. Why is that omission in place, and do you have plans to make hunting crime recordable for your force to deliver open, transparent and fair policing?
3. Are there any Operations running in your force or as a cross-border collaboration with other forces which target hunt saboteurs?
4. Are there, or have there ever been, any Operations running or about to run in your force or as a cross-border collaboration with other forces which focus in any way on information gathering/sharing for the purpose of classifying/recommending for classification and/or proscription of the Hunt Saboteur Association as Domestic Terrorists?
5. Are there, or have there ever been, any discussions between you and/or your office/staff with any other police force/government agency/political party/the Home Office and/or members of the current Conservative government which focus(ed) in any way on information gathering/sharing for the purpose of classifying/recommending for

classification and/or proscription of the Hunt Saboteur Association as Domestic Terrorists?

6. Are there, or have there ever been, any discussions between you and/or your office/staff with the Countryside Alliance and/or Vote OK (<https://www.vote-ok.co.uk>) which focus(ed) in any way on information gathering/sharing for the purpose of classifying/recommending for classification and/or proscription of the Hunt Saboteur Association as Domestic Terrorists?

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested. In accordance with the Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for your request.

The exemption applied to your request is Section 12(1) of the Freedom of information Act – the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit. This is because to locate records of all or any discussions of relevance would require us to check all and any forms of communications between the multiple mentioned participants, in numerous unstructured filing systems and email accounts from the beginning of time as there is no specific time frame mentioned.

Should you wish to refine your request to narrow the breadth of information requested and define a timeframe, we would be pleased to reconsider it.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write to me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

*Eleanor Tanner*

Eleanor Tanner  
Business Support and Customer Services Manager

### ***Complaint Rights***

If you are not satisfied with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision you should write to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Andy Hocking House, Alderson Drive, Exeter, Devon, EX2 7RP.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your OPCC complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner at Commissioner's Officer, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545700.