

Our Ref: 007921/16



**Freedom of Information Section**  
Nottinghamshire Police HQ  
Sherwood Lodge, Arnold  
Nottingham NG5 8PP

**Tel:** 101  
**Ext** 800 2507  
**Fax:** 0115 967 2896

09 February 2017

Dear

**Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

I write in connection with your request for information, which was received by Nottinghamshire Police on 02/11/2016.

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Nottinghamshire Police to locate the information you require.

**RESPONSE**

Under S 1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm that Nottinghamshire Police does hold the information you have requested.

Please find below answers to your questions:-

***Please could I request the following information about illegal guns seized from criminals/suspects, under the Freedom of Information Act.***

**1. How many illegal guns did your force seize from suspected criminals:**

- (a) between Oct 1st 2013-Sep 30th 2014?**
- (b) between Oct 1st 2014-Sep 30th 2015?**
- (c) between Oct 1st 2015-Sep 30th 2016?**

**2. For each seizure, please give the following details:**

- (a) type of gun**



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- (b) whether "real"/replica/fake**
- (c) date seized**
- (d) location seized**
- (e) action taken (including arrests/convictions for firearms offences)**
- (f) whether the gun had ever been fired, or linked to previous crimes**

***If you cannot provide all the information requested, please provide as much detail as possible.***

This information is not recorded in an easily retrievable format. To locate, retrieve and extract the requested information requires a manual search of all records held in order to identify any records in relation to your request. Nottinghamshire Police currently have over 2 million exhibits as a Force, relating to a wide range of incidents. This population includes all types and sizes of exhibit. In order to find out the reason for the exhibit being recovered/seized and the location from which it was recovered we would have to research other databases to ascertain this information and in many cases actually refer the incident details back to the Officer in the Case for each individual incident to glean this information. Furthermore, to establish whether any seized weapons had been used in previous offences or incidents would involve manually cross checking against crime and incident management systems. This would be an immense exercise and would also involve abstracting frontline officers from other duties in order to respond to the email requests and research for the cases concerned. The work necessary to identify the number of weapons that have been seized in each of the past 3 years would certainly exceed 18 working hours.

This letter constitutes a refusal notice under Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 with Section 12(1) of the act being applied

**12. – (1)** Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Should you wish for the Force to continue with your request, a more accurate figure will be provided within a fee's notice. The cost will need to be paid by you, prior to any further investigation. Please advise if you wish to proceed.

Alternatively you are invited to refine your request to bring it within the cost threshold – however due to the large numbers I am unable to suggest a refinement that would bring the request within the cost threshold.

### **Complaints Rights**

Your attention is drawn to the enclosed review procedure, which details your right of complaint.

**Copyright**

Nottinghamshire Police in complying with their statutory duty under Sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be addressed to the Force Solicitor, Nottinghamshire Police, Force Headquarters, Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottinghamshire, NG5 8PP.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Nottinghamshire Police.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer on telephone number 0115 9672507 or e-mail [freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk) quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

**Disclosure Officer**

## **Are you dissatisfied with your response?**

Nottinghamshire Police has a duty to implement a complaints process in relation to Freedom of Information Act requests. If you are not content with our response, you may appeal, this process is known as an 'Internal Review'

Internal reviews are intended to be a fair and impartial means of reviewing the original request process.

You can appeal about your request if you:-

- Disagree with the Forces interpretation of your request;
- Believe the Force hold more information than has been disclosed to you;
- Disagree with the application of exemptions;

### **How do I appeal?**

All appeals should be made in writing and sent to:-

Information Management  
Nottinghamshire Police  
Force Headquarters  
Sherwood Lodge  
Arnold  
Notts  
NG5 8PP

or alternatively [freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

To deal with your appeal as quickly as possible please provide the unique identification number provided with your response and the reasons for your appeal.

Once we have received your request for appeal, your FOI response will be reviewed in full to identify any problems in the disclosure.

The review will be undertaken by someone different from, and preferably senior to, the original decision maker and this should be completed within 20 working days from receipt, in exceptional circumstances it may be extended by a further 20 working days.

### **What if I'm still not satisfied?**

You can appeal to the Information Commissioner. You can contact the Information Commissioner Office at the following:-

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

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate)

E-mail: [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)