

Our Ref: 001365/20



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

Tel: 0115 967 0999
Ext 318 0888
Fax: 0115 967 2896

20 March 2020

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 21/02/2020.

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:-

1) The number of a) arrests and b) charges made by the force under the Vagrancy Act 1824 in each of the last five calendar years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and so far in 2020), broken down by offence.

I am not seeking information on the prostitution and indecency clauses of Section 3; accordingly, please break down charges and arrests for the following Section 3 offences if possible:

Wandering abroad to beg or gather alms

Placing self in public place to beg

Procuring child to beg

Person other than prostitute being idle and disorderly

Causing child to beg

Collecting alms or endeavouring to procure charitable contribution by false pretence



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
POLICE
PROUD TO SERVE

Wandering abroad and exposing wound or deformity to obtain alms
Persistently beg
Sleeping out

Arrests

Row Labels	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Grand Total
Begging and wandering abroad		3	1			4
Begging in a public place	6	8	7	12	3	36
Begging in a public place - second or subsequent occasion	2			2		4
Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises	18	12	26	23	4	83
Grand Total	26	23	34	37	7	127

Charged

Row Labels	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Grand Total
Begging and wandering abroad		2	1			3
Begging in a public place	3	7	6	11	2	29
Begging in a public place - second or subsequent occasion	2			1		3
Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises	8	4	14	10		36
Grand Total	13	13	21	22	2	71

2) The number of individuals arrested under the Vagrancy Act 1824 in each of the last five calendar years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and so far in 2020) who:

- a. Were listed as having no fixed abode / no fixed address**
- b. Were subsequently charged with an offence**
- c. Were issued a fine**

Arrested and No fixed Abode

Row Labels	2016	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total	
Begging and wandering abroad		1			1	
Begging in a public place		3	1	2	4	10
Begging in a public place - second or subsequent occasion				1	1	
Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises		1		1	3	5
Grand Total		4	2	3	8	17

Charged and No fixed Abode

Row Labels	2016	2017	2018	2019	Grand Total
Begging and wandering abroad		1			1
Begging in a public place	2	1	2	3	8
Vagrant - being found in or upon enclosed premises			1	3	4
Grand Total	2	2	3	6	13

3) Please provide the amount of each fine given for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824 in the last five calendar years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and so far in 2020).

No information held

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. **It should be noted that for these reasons, this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.**

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 9670999 Ext 318 0888 or e-mail freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RJ Br'.

Electronically signed on behalf of Information Request Team

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

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.

Your request for review must be received within 28 calendar days your response. If your request for review is not received within this time period a review will not be considered.

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

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>