

Our Ref: 006210/20



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

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

22 September 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 14/09/2020.

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 in part.

Please find below answers to your questions:-

Under the freedom of information Act 2000 can I please request this information for each of these financial years: 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2021/21 from the start of the financial year 2020 to 10 Sept 2020:

3) The number of warnings issued for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824

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. An initial search revealed a total of 388 records over a 4 year and 9 month period. This type of information is recorded under our intelligence management systems under the subject 'begging' however there is no qualifier to extract entries relating to warning notices issued we'd have to

manually review every record to determine if it related to such warning notices.

We estimate that it would take approximately 5 minutes per record to search and extract the requested data, if recorded, which would, at the most conservative, equate to approximately 32 working hours (for 4 years 9 months' worth of records). This takes the request over the cost threshold of 18 working hours and engages Section 12 (1) of the Act.

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 – perhaps by reducing the number of years you require data for, and resubmitting the request.

In accordance with the Act, once one part of the request is excess cost the whole request exceeds the cost threshold. However, in the spirit of the Act, we have provided the information which we were able to retrieve in relation to the other parts of your request.

1) The number of arrests the force made for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824

Answer: -

2016/2017: 23

2017/2018: 22

2018/2019: 32

2019/2020: 24

2020/2021(up to 10/09/2020): No Information Held

Offence Code Vagrancy Act	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	Total
182/00	7	11	13	8	39
183/00	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
185/01	16	11	19	16	62
188/05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

2) The number of charges the force made for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824

2016/2017: 11

2017/2018: 10

2018/2019: 24

2019/2020: 11

2020/2021 (up to 10/09/2020): No Information Held

Offence Code Vagrancy Act	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	Total
182/00	4	9	11	5	29
183/00	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
185/01	6	1	13	6	26
188/05	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

4) The number of fixed penalty notices issued for offences under the Vagrancy Act 1824

Answer: - No Information Held, fines are issued by the courts.

Please break down the information by the title of the offence and by the financial year.

* Searched time period 01/04/2016 – 10/09/2020

* Searched custody management systems for arrests relating to Vagrancy Offence Codes: 182/00, 183/00, 185/01 and 188/05

* Searched for records where a charge was applied

Please Note: 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 'J. B.', written in a cursive style.

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/>