

Our Ref: 007230/12



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
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21 January 2013

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 18 December 2012.

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

Please find below answers to your questions:-

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.

1) Has there been an increase in historic child sex abuse claims since the Jimmy Savile story broke? (ie. allegations of abuse that happened in the past, rather than claims relating to events today)

Data held comparing to the years, shows that there were 52 claims for the time period 03/10/2011 to 16/12/2011 and 62 claims 03/10/2012 to 16/12/2012.

2) If so, how many cases are being investigated?

For the time period 03/10/2012 to 16/12/2012

62 claims received, 44 currently under investigation, 11 detected and 7 filed as undetected after the investigation.

3) How does this number compare with last year (2011)?

For the time period 03/10/2011 to 16/12/2011 52 claims were made and for the time period 03/10/2012 to 16/12/2012 62 claims were made.

4) Are there any cases that suggest a serial sex offender such as Savile?

No

5) If so, are they still alive?

No information held

6) Do any of the claims involve celebrities, prominent figures or politicians?

No

7) Do any of the claims relate to care homes?

Yes

8) What age and sex were most of the victims at the time of the alleged offences?

Most victims were female, 22 were under the age of 10 and the remainder between 10 and 17.

This information has been extracted from a live crime system and may be subject to change.

In addition to the response we have given the Nottinghamshire Police can neither confirm nor deny that any other information is held in relation to information that may or may not originate from exempt bodies, or in relation to any other material which may or may not form part of the investigation.

The two exemptions relevant to this statement are S23 (5) Information supplied by, or relating to certain exempt bodies and S30(3), by virtue of both S30(1) and (2), investigations and proceedings conducted by public bodies. S 23 is an absolute exemption, although it would be fair to say that it is a matter of public record that investigations of the type here, primarily focused on child abuse, may attract the involvement of the Child Exploitation Online Protection Agency. They are part of the larger Serious and Organised Crime Agency and are therefore an exempt body under freedom of information legislation. This should not be taken as an inference that they are, or are not involved in this case, simply that your enquiry, by its very nature relates to the type of activities they may undertake.

With regard S30, this is a qualified exemption and I am obliged therefore to consider the public interest in neither confirming nor denying that information is held.

Factors favouring not maintaining a neither confirm nor deny stance

To confirm whether or not there is any information relevant to your request would satisfy the public need to know, at this time, where material relating to the Jimmy Saville allegations may, or may not be found. This not only allows them to exercise their rights to access such material but also means that the public are better informed.

Factors favouring maintaining the neither confirm nor deny stance.

By confirming or not that information is held, would in this case disclose what facts may or may not exist in relation to an ongoing investigation. If doing so would harm that investigation, denying justice to the victims or jeopardising such an investigation from reaching a satisfactory conclusion then it would not be in the public interest to do so.

Balance Test

Confirming or denying that certain material were, or were not held in this case would harm the ongoing investigation; therefore it cannot be in the public interest to do so.

No inference can be taken from these statements that further information does or does not exist.

This letter constitutes and refusal notice under Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, with Section S 23(5) and S30(1)(2) (3).

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 quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Officer

Are you dissatisfied with your response?

If so, prior to lodging a formal complaint, you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision reconsidered is to telephone the case officer that is identified at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Formal Independent Review

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Nottinghamshire Police under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you can request an Independent Review.

Upon receipt for a review of the initial request response, an independent audit officer from Information Management will review the request and assess whether it has been satisfactorily processed in accordance with policy and procedure.

Requests for Independent Reviews requests should be made in writing to-

Force Information Manager
Nottinghamshire Police
Force Headquarters
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 8PP

The Audit officer will record and communicate his/her decision to the information requester within 20 working days.

Appeals

If the findings of the formal independent review do not meet your approval, you can register an appeal against the decision.

An investigation will then take place by the Freedom of Information officer, which will be reported and presented to the Internal Appeal Board. This will include a full account of the reasoning for or against disclosure and the application of any relevant exemptions.

The Internal Appeal Board will consist of at least a member of the Chief Officer Team, a member of the Legal Team and the Force Information Manager.

Appeals should be registered in writing to:

Freedom of Information Officer
Nottinghamshire Police
Force Headquarters
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 8PP

Alternatively E-mail: Freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

Or call: 01159672507

Applications to the Information Commissioner

If you then remain dissatisfied, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner, please visit their website at www.informationcommisioner.gov.uk

Alternatively, Write to:

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

Or call: 01625 545700.