

Our Ref: 002569/13



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
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15 April 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 21/03/2013.

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.

I am making an application under the freedom of information act for the following information regarding police dog handling courses.

1) I need to know how many home office police dog training/handling courses have been attended by your officers each year since the year 2002 through to the present time throughout the UK. This would not only include the general purpose dogs but also the courses where specialist dogs are trained. For example the Metropolitan Police have, in the past, trained dogs for the UK customs and border control as well as training their own operational police dogs.

General purpose dog courses.

2002 two courses.
2003 one course.
2004 one course.
2005 one course.
2006 one course.
2007 one course.
2008 two courses.
2009 three courses.
2010 none.
2011 two courses.
2012 one course.
2013 one course.
Proactive drugs initial.
2002 one course.
2003 none.
2004 one course.
2005 one course.
2006 one course.
2007 none.
2008 none.
2009 none.
2010 none.
2011 one course.
2012 none.
2013 one course.

Passive drugs initial.

2007 one course multi agency (prison)
2012 one course.

Explosive initial course.

2007 one course.
2010 one course.

2) I also would like to know how many dog and handler teams have passed and become fully operational after completing their course from the year October 2002 to the present day.

Dog and handler teams passed on becoming fully operational after completing their course from Oct 2002 to present day = 63

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

Disclosure 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.