

Our Ref: 005427/12



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
Fax: 0115 967 2896

7 December 2012

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 12/09/2012.

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.

I wish to know the following information in relation to air rifles seized by police.

1. How many air rifles have been seized by Nottinghamshire Police in the last 12 months?

See the response to questions 2

2. How many of the air rifles seized were subsequently returned to the person from who it was seized?

I have made enquiries with regard to your request and have been informed that the information you have requested even for 1 year's worth of data would exceed the cost threshold of 18 hours under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

It has been identified that there are around 1044 entries that have been made in relation to property recorded that are firearms. This data is not fully complete due to the fact that some items will be retained by others for forensic checks or held by the police in other locations as it forms part of an investigation. The information recorded is dependent on what has been provided at the time, and filters would also have to be undertaken to identify items such as BB guns, replica, plastic etc. It may also not identify the specific type of firearm, if it is illegal and the location. Other items are also listed within this property log such as CS spray and would need to be discounted from the figures. Therefore for one year it would require a manual check of each entry made which would take an estimated 10 minutes per record this equates to 174 hours.

3. How many cautions have been administered for offences relating to air rifles?

Number of cautions administered for offences relating to air weapons (01/09/2011 - 31/08/2012)

Number of cautions:	3
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Please note:- The gun crime data has been extracted using the Home Office guidance for gun crime which uses the category or 'air weapon' and does not distinguish between types

Please Note:- This data has been extracted from a live crime system and may be subject to change

Source:- Management Information 26/09/2012

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.