

Our Ref: 005598/14



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
Fax: 0115 967 2896

08 October 2014

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 09/09/2014.

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

Please find below answers to your questions:-

1. Up to 1st September 2014 how many officers and front line staff, including those who take reports from victims, have been trained in how to respond to victims of stalking appropriately and sensitively?

2. Through what method have they been trained (please select from below)?

a. College of Policing e-learning briefing module

b. Face-to-face training

c. As part of another compulsory training session, if so please state which training course

d. Other, if so please state how

3. Of those officers and front line staff that have been trained please state the duration of the training (in hours). If there are multiple methods please say a time for each method?

4. How many of the officers and front line staff that have undergone training are

a. Officers that are still in their probation period

b. Officers that have completed their probation period

c. Front line staff that are still in their probation period

d. Front line staff that have completed their probation period

5. How many cases of stalking have been reported to your police force up to the 1st September 2014 and how many of those reports have been passed to the CPS?

6. How many DASH and S-DASH assessments have been completed by your force in relation to stalking victims up to 1st September 2014?

7. Do you have best practice guidance on how your police force deals with stalking? If so please send across with the FOI response.

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.

This information is not recorded in an easily retrievable format. To locate, retrieve and extract the requested information requires a manual search of records held. For example in relation to your question 4. We know that 1490 employees have received training on completion of DASH or SDASH forms that in Nottinghamshire are referenced G1061. The question wants to know how many of these people were within a probationary period. To do this would require a list of the staff members taking part in the training being cross references against records within our Human Resource Management System. Even at a very conservative estimate of 1 minute per record this would take over 24 hours work. 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 reconsidering the questions and resubmitting.

In accordance with the Act, once one part of the request is excess cost the whole request exceeds the cost threshold.

In the spirit of the Act but outside of it I have answered the questions as fully as I can without exceeding the 18 hours provided for within the act.

1. Up to 1st September 2014 how many officers and front line staff, including those who take reports from victims, have been trained in how to respond to victims of stalking appropriately and sensitively?

Answer

1319 Police Officers, 20 Special Constables and 151 Support Staff received training in Stalking and Harassment and the completion of the G1061 risk assessment form.

356 Police Officers/Staff have completed an e-briefing on Stalking and Harassment (some of these will be the same officers and staff in the totals above).

Training on stalking is included in initial learning course for new officers. (I have not been provided with the number of officers receiving this training)

2. Through what method have they been trained (please select from below)?

a. College of Policing e-learning briefing module

b. Face-to-face training

c. As part of another compulsory training session, if so please state which training course

d. Other, if so please state how

Answer

e-learning briefing module

Face-to-face training

As part of another compulsory training session

3. Of those officers and front line staff that have been trained please state the duration of the training (in hours). If there are multiple methods please say a time for each method?

This information is not recorded. The training relating to stalking is delivered alongside training about other policing responses to issues such as Domestic

Abuse and Harassment. Training specific to stalking can vary due to discussion points and cannot be isolated from the previously mentioned issues.

4. How many of the officers and front line staff that have undergone training are

- a. Officers that are still in their probation period**
- b. Officers that have completed their probation period**
- c. Front line staff that are still in their probation period**
- d. Front line staff that have completed their probation period**

Collating the information to answer this question would exceed the 18 hours required under the Act see above explanation.

5. How many cases of stalking have been reported to your police force up to the 1st September 2014 and how many of those reports have been passed to the CPS?

We have recorded 63 Crimes of Stalking (as defined within Home Office Offence Code 8Q or Home Office Class 8/56, 8/58, 9/66, 8/65 and 195/12).

We have interpreted your question regarding how many reports were passed to the CPS to mean whether a file was submitted for prosecution. i.e. Where a person was charged. 22 crimes were finalised as person being charged. There were no records of anyone being reported for summons.

6. How many DASH and S-DASH assessments have been completed by your force in relation to stalking victims up to 1st September 2014?

We have records of 45 DASH or SDASH forms being completed.

7. Do you have best practice guidance on how your police force deals with stalking? If so please send across with the FOI response.

We do not have a best practice guidance specific to Nottinghamshire Police. We are guided by 'Practice Advise on Investigating Stalking and Harassment' produced by the National Policing Improvement Agency. Now the 'College of Policing'

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?

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.

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