

Our Ref: 006464/15



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
Fax: 0115 967 2896

14 October 2015

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 21/09/2015.

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 would therefore be grateful if you could provide the following information on the years ending:

April 2015

April 2014

April 2013

Information required

How many prosecutions have your force conducted in each year under Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act?

How many prosecutions have your force conducted in each year under Section 4 of the Protection from Harassment Act?

Police Forces do not conduct prosecutions; this is a function of the Court Systems. However we have taken your request to be in relation to charges and outcomes of Investigations.



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Please see below the data held in relation to this in the form of tables.

Number of Offenders in relation to Detected Crimes under Section 2 & Section 4 of the Protection from Harassment Act

Total Number of Outcomes* under Section 2**

Time Period	ADULT CAUTION	CHARGE	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION	Conditional Caution	FINAL WARNING	SUMMONS	YOUTH CAUTION
May 2012 - April 2013	60	108	18	0	2	3	0
May 2013 - April 2014	71	150	6	1	0	7	7
May 2014 - April 2015	42	174	15	0	0	12	6
Total	173	432	39	1	2	22	13

Total Number of Outcome under Section 4**

Time Period	ADULT CAUTION	CHARGE	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION	SUMMONS
May 2012 - April 2013	2	4	0	1
May 2013 - April 2014	0	5	1	1
May 2014 - April 2015	0	10	1	2
Total	2	19	2	4

* Data provided by using Date Detected.

** This is total number of Outcomes of Detected crimes

Please Note:- This data has been extracted from a live system and may be subject to change
Source:- Performance and Insight 09.10.2015

How many Police Cautions have your force conducted in each year under Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act?

Number of Police Cautions* given under Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act******

Time Period	Total
May 2012 - April 2013	62
May 2013 - April 2014	79
May 2014 - April 2015	48
Total	189

*** Cautions consist of the following Outcomes:

- Adult Cautions
- Conditional Caution
- Youth Caution
- Final Warning
- Reprimands

**** This is taken from the total number of Detected crimes shown above

Please Note:- This data has been extracted from a live system and may be subject to change
Source:- Performance and Insight 09.10.2015

How many Police Cautions have your force conducted in each year under Section 4 of the Protection from Harassment Act?

Number of Police Cautions^{8} given under Section 4 of the Protection from Harassment Act^{****}**

Time Period	Total
May 2012 - April 2013	2
May 2013 - April 2014	0
May 2014 - April 2015	0
Total	2

*** Cautions consist of the following Outcomes:

- Adult Cautions
- Conditional Caution
- Youth Caution
- Final Warning
- Reprimands

**** This is taken from the total number of Detected crimes shown above

Please Note:- This data has been extracted from a live system and may be subject to change
Source:- Performance and Insight 09.10.2015

How many of each were categorised as being domestic incidents?

Number of the above that were categorised as being Domestic Incidents

Time Period	Total
May 2012 - April 2013	54
May 2013 - April 2014	55
May 2014 - April 2015	34
Total	143

How many of each were the offender and victim previously unknown to each other?

Number of the above where the Offender and Victim were previously unknown to each other

Time Period	Total
May 2012 - April 2013	2
May 2013 - April 2014	7
May 2014 - April 2015	1
Total	10

How many Harassment Warning Notices were given to suspects in each specified year?

How many Harassment Warning Notices were given to suspects where the offence was considered domestic abuse?

How many Harassment Warning Notices were given to suspects where the offender and victim were previously unknown to each other?

How many suspects that were issued Harassment Warning Notices were subsequently prosecuted or cautioned under Sections 2 or 4?

How many of these were domestic incidents?

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.

In relation to a previous request, a search was conducted of our intelligence systems for the keywords '*harassment warning*'. The figure which was returned was 3,317 for the period requested at that time (19/08/2012-19/08/2015). However, this figure would not denote the number of physical "Harassment Warning Notices" or "Police information notices" which had been issued. The majority of harassment warnings are issued verbally to inform an individual that to continue a particular course of conduct may attract further Police involvement. This would be part of our proactive approach to dealing with reports of harassment. In the majority of cases a formal notice would not be given and therefore the number of records which contained the keywords '*harassment warning*' would not be any indication of the number of actual Notices which had been issued.

To extract information in respect of how many formal notices had been issued would require a manual search of all the above records held to establish whether any Notices had been issued as a result of harassment reports. In some cases this may involve cross referencing records against other crime and incident recording systems. As identified above, there would be approximately 3300 records to search (based on the figure above for a similar time period) for the requested period.

In order to then ascertain if further information was held as per your request regarding if there was Domestic Violence, if the Individuals were known to each other or if there were any resulting Outcomes this would require searching a number of different systems. This is due to the fact that this information may not be held centrally and would require a number cross-referencing checks to be made for each individual Notice. Any relevant data would then need to be extracted into a disclosable format.

It is estimated that to search one record and conduct any necessary cross reference checks would take approximately 5-10 minutes which would equate to approximately 412.5 working hours (for 3 years' 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. However, due to the large numbers I am unable to suggest a refinement that would bring the request within the cost threshold.

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, but outside of it, we have provided the data held in relation to your other questions which we were able to retrieve.

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 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