

Our Ref: 007883/14



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
Fax: 0115 967 2896

09 January 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 09/12/2014.

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

Please find below answers to your questions:-

How many times from 1 January 2011 to today's date (8 December 2014) did your police force issue 'Prevention of Harassment' orders?

How many times have these orders been issued to a journalist or news/media organisation employee?

Please list each such case, including the date, name of person involved (if possible) and their place of work (if possible). Please also include a copy of the 'Prevention of Harassment' order.

If any information needs to be redacted under FOI rules, such as names, please do so.

Clarification received 15/12/14

I have been asked for clarification from several forces on what exactly I am asking. I have been told that in fact I am asking about Prevention of Harassment warnings, or Police Information Notices. To clarify further, below is a version of the type of document distributed by the Met.

If permitted, I would also like to amend the request. I would like to change the second question currently "How many times have these orders been issued to a journalist or news/media organisation

employee?" to: how many of the documents were issued to journalists. If it is not possible to answer this, please tell me how many of the documents contain one or more of the following words: "Journalist", "reporter", "newspaper" or "photographer".

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. Nottinghamshire Police use what is referred to as a 'Harassment Warning'. Harassment warnings can be issued through a variety of different mediums and do not always involve the production of a formal document. The majority of harassment warnings are issued verbally and the details may be held within the body of the incident report itself. Information in respect of Harassment warnings issued by Nottinghamshire Police is not held centrally. Therefore to locate, retrieve and extract the requested information requires a manual search of all records held. An initial search revealed a total of 47,073 incident records over the requested period which contained the word 'harassment'. Each record would be required to be searched to establish whether a harassment warning was issued and whether the individual involved was employed as a journalist (if this information was recorded at all).

It is estimated that to search one record would take approximately 5-10 minutes (it is difficult to provide a more specific estimation since incident reports can vary in length) which would equate to approximately 3922.75 working hours (at the more conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record). 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.

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