

Our Ref: 009571/13



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

Tel: 101
Ext 800 2507
Fax: 0115 967 2896

06 November 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 10/10/2013.

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.

a. How do Nottinghamshire Police define a gang?

Nottinghamshire Police use the ACPO definition for Urban Street Gangs (USG's)

"A relatively durable, predominantly street-based group of young people who;

- (1) See themselves (and are seen by others) as a discernible group,
- and
- (2) Engage in a range of criminal activity and violence

They may also have any or all of the following features:

- (3) Identify with or lay claim over territory
- (4) Have some form of identifying structural feature
- (5) Are in conflict with other, similar, gangs."

b. Using that definition, how many gangs are there in your force area?

c. Please break these down into ethnic groups e.g. Eastern European; African-Caribbean; East Asian; South Asian or which ever way you categorise crime when it comes to ethnicity

d. How many people have been arrested as a result of gang related crimes? I am confident that you will collate these figures as part of your annual report or in-house retrieval exercises or that your organised crime unit will have these figures.

Also, if question D could indicate a breakdown of gang members arrested for ANY crime then that would be ideal. The time period I would like this broken down is the past 5 years.

This information is not recorded in an easily retrievable format. Records relating to the information you have requested are not held centrally and could potentially be located across more than one department. To locate, retrieve and extract the requested information requires a manual search of all records held in order to identify any records in relation to your request. The work necessary to identify the number of records and their specific content would certainly exceed 18 working hours.

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.

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 and therefore we are not obliged to provide answers. However in the spirit of the Act, but outside of it, we have supplied the information that we have already been able to retrieve in relation to your request.

e. Would you consider any of these gangs as organised crime gangs? If so how many do you believe you have?

Under the Freedom of Information Act we can only give recorded information and not opinion.

f. How much money have Nottinghamshire Police recovered after seizing assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and Criminal Proceed (Recovery) Act 2009?

£9,087,380.22 confiscated, forfeited under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)

g. Please indicate some of the unusual items recovered e.g. helicopter, stuffed animals, record collections, wine cellars etc.

Aston Martin DB9 volante

Radley handbags

Audi R8

Bentley

Steiff bears

World War 2 replica tank

World War 2 memorabilia

Vintage Land Rover

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.