



Our Ref: 002507/20

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 20 August 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 28/07/2020.

I note you seek access to the following information:

I would like to make the following Freedom of Information request with regards to details of unlicensed music events (UMEs) and/or illegal raves reported to and attended by officers from your police force in 2020 and 2019.

For each UME/illegal rave reported to and attended by officers, I would like to know the following:

- *The date of UME/illegal rave*
- *Its location (as specific as possible)*
- *Details of the event, including the approx. number of people in attendance*
- *Whether any sections were issued*
- *Whether any arrests were made*
- *Whether any equipment or vehicles were seized*
- *Any other details of actions were taken by your police force in regards to the monitoring and termination of each event*

Please provide data for both 2020 and 2019, but with priority given to 2020, up until the most recent date for which data is available.

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Leicestershire Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information asked for is as follows: -

Information relating to recent illegal raves has been published in the media and can be found below:

<https://www.leicesterm Mercury.co.uk/news/local-news/warning-not-go-illegal-rave-4308838>

<https://www.leicesterm Mercury.co.uk/news/local-news/illegal-rave-up-200-people-4414236>

Any further information is considered exempt by virtue of Section 12.

Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

Due to the nature of illegal raves and unlicensed music events, Leicestershire Police experience limited numbers of such incidents. Therefore these are not recorded in an easily identifiable manner in our systems. As a result, to provide accurate information relating to your request would require a manual review of incidents in the time frames requested to identify those meeting your request. This would take in excess of 18 hours.

In order to retrieve the information you have requested would therefore be in excess of the 18 hours specified by the Home Office as the time period for which a police force should allocate to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

In the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004, the current regulatory limit which has been set by the Secretary of State for public authorities, which includes the police service, is £450 for the marginal costs which are the costs of finding, sorting, editing or redacting information and disbursements (printing, photocopying etc). The Association of Chief Police Officers have agreed a national standard of an hourly rate of £25 is to be charged for the time taken. In essence therefore, the costs equate to 18 hours work per request. It will be apparent therefore that within the time frame of 18 hours it will not be possible to extract the information to answer any of your questions.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under s12(1) as the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police

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