



Our Ref: 002521/20

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 07 October 2020

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), received on 28/07/2020 in which you requested the following information: -

I am doing a project exploring body deposition in homicides and hope you can assist by providing the following information: The name, gender, and age of the victim and perpetrator The relationship between the victim and perpetrator The cause of death and any identified motive The location where the homicide took place The location where the body was disposed of (if different to the above point) The manner in which the body was disposed of (i.e. burial, fire, freezer etc.) Thank you.

I can confirm, pursuant to s1(1)(a) of FOIA that this Force does hold the information you have requested.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Leicestershire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption(s) applicable to the information are as follows.

Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

It would be necessary for Leicestershire Police to search all incidents of killings in order to find the detailed information requested over a minimum of the 5 or 10 year timeframe.

In addition, most murder investigations and outcomes receive media attention and police forces release media bulletins accordingly.

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. At the present time I cannot suggest how you could refine your request for us to be able to supply useful information.

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 the 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