



Our Ref: 000498/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 09 March 2021

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), received on 11/02/2021 in which you requested the following information: -

For each of the following years:

2015- 2106

2016 -2017

2017 -2018

2018 -2019

2019- 2020

Please provide me with:

- 1) The number of interviews under caution conducted by your officers at which an Appropriate Adult was requested by the Custody Officer*
- 2) The number of interviews under caution at which an Appropriate Adult was requested by the detained person*
- 3) The number of interviews under caution at which an Appropriate Adult was in attendance.*
- 4) Of the interviews at which and Appropriate Adult was in attendance, how many were provided by a commissioned Appropriate Adult service?*

Please provide the information in the form of electronic copies.

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.

There were over 8000 custody records that had an appropriate adult attached to it. To provide information as to who requested the appropriate adult, whether they were from a service and whether the person went to interview with an appropriate adult would require a manual search of each custody record. I would estimate that at 5 minutes per record it would take approximately 680 hours.

In order to retrieve the information you have requested would therefore be well 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 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.

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police