



Our Ref: 000820/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 08 April 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 10/03/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

Please can you break down the following information for the following calendar years: 2018, 2019 and 2020? Can you also please provide me the information for the period between 1 January and 28 February 2021?

Q1) How many requests were made through your police force's Domestic Violence (abuse) Disclosure Scheme- often referred to as 'Clare's Law'- over this stated period?

1a) How many of these such 'right to ask' requests were approved by your force over this stated period (i.e. your police force disclosed the pertinent information)?

1b) Over the stated period, on how many occasions did your force take more than 35 days to make a disclosure in relation to a granted request?

1c) What was the longest time (in days) over this specified timeframe that it took for your force to make a disclosure in relation to a granted request?

Clarification:

In relation to Question 1 of my request, I can confirm that it relates to only Right to Ask applications (not Right to Know as well).

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: -

Please see attached spreadsheet containing information relating to your request. Please note that in 2020 Leicestershire Police made a change to our internal processed of DVDS applications.

The information requested under 1C is considered exempt by virtue of Section 12.

Section 12 – Cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit.

Information relating to the exact time over 35 days for a response to these applications is not held in a readily retrievable format, therefore to provide this

would require a manual review of all applications over 35 days. This would take in excess of 18 hours to conduct.

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) for this question as the cost of providing you with the information for this aspect 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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