



Our Ref: 001312/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 07 May 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 16/04/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. How many serving Police Officers within Leicestershire Constabulary wear hearing aids?*
- 2. How many serving Police Officers ENTERED Leicestershire Constabulary already wearing hearing aids?*
- 3. What reasonably adjustments are put in place for entrants/new recruits with hearing loss (any form of hearing loss)?*

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: -

1. Leicestershire Police do not record the numbers of Officers working in Force who wear hearing aids
2. Leicestershire Police do not record information on new recruits who wear hearing aids.
3. Under normal circumstances the hearing of recruitments tested by pure tone audiometry (this has been suspended for the last year due to COVID) If they do not meet the standards set by the Home Office, then we advise that their hearing is tested in operational circumstances.
The most likely scenario is the use of radio in a noisy environment to endure information and commands can be understood and conveyed.
The testing is not undertaken by Occupational Health but by the operational side.
The purpose of the test is to understand if the recruit can hear adequately and receive messages to preserve the safety of the recruit /police officer and those around them e.g. colleagues and the public.

Should equipment be needed that we would advise them to contact Access to Work and we have other sources of advice:

<https://rnid.org.uk/information-and-support/technology-and-products/>
<https://www.rnidconnevans.co.uk/catalogue/8936682/Equipment-at-Work>
https://abilitynet.org.uk/factsheets/hearing-loss-and-computing?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI77bbtfmJ8AIVpO_tCh1PSgJHEAAYAiAAEgIRXvD_BwE
<https://www.phonaknhs.co.uk/funding/access-to-work/>

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

Leicestershire Police in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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 Information Manager, Leicestershire Police Headquarters, St. Johns, Enderby, Leicester LE19 2BX.