



Our Ref: 002063/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 21 July 2021

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), received on 17/06/2021 in which you requested the following information: -

I write with a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Under this legislation, I would like to know please:

- *What regular, formal multi-agency meetings take place to address neighbourhood policing issues within each council borough policed by yourselves?*
- *What agencies (and departments thereof) regularly attend them (e.g council – environmental health / housing / street cleansing etc)?*
- *What agencies occasionally attend them?*
- *How often do they take place?*
- *Do you have any co-location of services in a neighbourhood policing context (e.g share building space with other (non-policing) services aimed at improving local neighbourhoods)*
- *If it is possible, can you please tell me when this co-location began.*

I thank you in advance for your reply, which would be most preferable by way of e-mail to tom.andrews@dmu.ac.uk.

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.

Each neighbourhood Policing Area (NPA) will have different meetings and the City NPA's different to the County. The information is not collated and stored in any electronically easily retrievable format. It would be necessary for each NPA Commander to ask all staff to provide any information held relating to your request, it would then require any redactions that are necessary before disclosure. The NPA Commanders allow outside agencies to use their space.

There are regular Joint Agency Group (JAG)meetings and Community Safety Partnership(CSP) meetings but these are chaired by other agencies so therefore the information is theirs and held by them.

Each NPA will hold smaller mulit-agency consultation meetings. There will also be meetings to discuss specific problems and areas, for example ASB.

It would also be necessary for Leicestershire Police to ask each commander what is collated or held in documentation form in relation to the co-locations of services.

Also, they do allow outside agencies to use their space and we do not know.

Under section 16 of the legislation (Duty to assist) I am unable to identify how your request may be defined in order for us to supply useful information.

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 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