



Our Ref: 002845/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 30 September 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 24/08/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *The number of firearms licenses revoked each year from 2015-2021 inclusive.*
2. *The number of firearms licenses returned after revocation each year from 2015-2021 inclusive*
3. *The number of shotgun certificates revoked each year from 2015-2021 inclusive.*
4. *The number of shotgun certificates returned after revocation each year from 2015-2021 inclusive*

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. *The number of firearms licenses revoked each year from 2015-2021 inclusive.*

2015 = 1

2016 = 7

2017 = 4

2018 = 5

2019 = 7

2020 = 6

2021 = 0

2. *The number of firearms licenses returned after revocation each year from 2015-2021 inclusive*

The database does not allow extraction of this information

3. *The number of shotgun certificates revoked each year from 2015-2021 inclusive.*

- 2015 = 8
- 2016 = 45
- 2017 = 33
- 2018 = 15
- 2019 = 26
- 2020 = 26
- 2021 = 10
- *The number of shotgun certificates returned after revocation each year from 2015-2021 inclusive*

The database does not allow extraction of this information

The information for this question is not searchable or retrievable in any electronic process from the database, Therefore, the information for this part of your request is exempt under Section 12.

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.

In order to retrieve the information for this part of your request would require a manual search of all records and 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 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

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