



Our Ref: 002873/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 06 October 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 26/08/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

I am look for the cost of a court case from yesterday and today at LMC against hunt staff by cps which failed because of lack of evidence

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: -

Leicestershire Police did take the case to Court; however, it would be impossible to provide the total costs as there were mufti agencies involved and Leicestershire Police do not hold any of the information/costs relating to the other agencies. Also to provide the costs for Leicestershire Police would invoke a section 12 exemption as described below:

I cannot suggest how you could refine your request for Leicestershire Police to be able to provide any useful information.

I can confirm, pursuant to s1(1)(a) of FOIA that this Force does hold some of 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.

It would be necessary to check all the records manually as the information is not collated and held in any easily retrievable electronic format. 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 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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