



NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Humberside Police
Corporate Development Branch
Information Compliance Unit
Priory Road
Kingston Upon Hull
HU5 5SF
Tel: +44 (1482) 317095
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Your Ref:
Our Ref: F-2013-00252

8 March 2013

Dear XXXX

FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT 2000 Reference No: F-2013-00252

Thank you for your request for Information, received at this office on 12 February 2013, in which you requested details of the following:

Please disclose the number of times in the each of the following years, that police cars have been used to transport patients to hospital because an ambulance has not been available:

2008
2009
2010
2011
2012

The Freedom of Information Act requires that this request is dealt with in a manner that is motive and applicant blind. A disclosure under this legislation is considered a disclosure to the world and is considered to be on the basis that it is in the public interest.

This response is unique to Humberside Police and you are advised not to compare this like for like with any other force's response you receive.

Humberside Police Response

We are unable to provide you with any data in respect of your request as the information is not held in an easily retrievable format. Humberside Police has over 250 'incident type' codes in use and as there isn't a type code relating to this particular call for service, therefore we would have to assess each and every incident log created during the time frame of your request. We have been advised by the management support unit, at the command centre who handle calls for service, that this type call would be a very rare occurrence. We thought it might be possible to look at the origin of the call as being the Ambulance Service however we were advised that this wouldn't necessarily relate to the ambulance service asking us to take an individual to hospital.

The following table contains the total number of calls for service and a breakdown of the calls received from the Ambulance Service for each of the last 5 years.

Year	Calls for service	Calls from Ambulance Service
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Chief Constable T. S. Hollis CBE, QPM *Deputy Chief Constable* D. J. Griffin MA

Assistant Chief Constable (Operations Support) A. Leaver *Assistant Chief Constable (Operations)* S. M. Donald MA

Assistant Chief Officer (Support) P. S. Goatley BA (Hons), CPFA *Assistant Chief Officer (Human Resources)* I. Watson MBA, MSc, FCIPD

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2008	280,024	5479
2009	279,672	5791
2010	276,738	5721
2011	282,974	5989
2012	280,339	5593

Therefore it has been determined that this information cannot be retrieved without it exceeding 18 hours or as a cost equivalent £450 and as such s12 of the Act applies.

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

s1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit' (18 – hours).

Activities that may be counted within our time estimations are:

- Determining if the information is held;
- Locating the information, or a document containing it;
- Retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- Extracting the information from a document containing it.

The following have not been included within our calculations:

- The time spent identifying information to be exempted
- The time dedicated to the process of redaction.

Please take this as a refusal notice in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act which states; A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is relying on a claim that section 12 or 14 applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact.

Should you need to discuss this further please contact Sarah Whitfield, Information Compliance Assistant, on the above details.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Whitfield
Information Compliance Assistant

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Humberside Police – Freedom of Information Complaints Review Procedure

Why Have A Complaints Process?

Humberside Police is committed to delivering an open and transparent service whenever possible and it is our intention to commit to the principles of openness embodied in the Freedom of Information Act. We will release information to the greatest extent possible, consistent with the public interest, however we may withhold information if we consider its release would cause significant harm.

If information within a document is withheld, it will be clearly marked to show where information has been removed and the legal exemption we have used. If we decline to supply all or part of any information you have asked for we will notify you in writing giving our reasons based upon legal exemptions contained within the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are not satisfied about the way in which your Freedom of Information request has been handled you have the right to appeal. This information has been designed to help you to understand how to complain to Humberside Police. Using this process will not affect your right to complain directly to the Information Commissioner if you feel we have not complied with our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act.

Who Can Complain?

Anyone who has made a Freedom of Information request in writing to the Force can complain. If you have requested information and you are not satisfied with the way we have dealt with it, you can use the complaints process to have it looked at again. If someone who requested information would like to complain but cannot do so themselves, you can complain on their behalf but it will help us if you make it clear that you are doing so.

What Can I Complain About?

If you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request, with the fee we have charged, or with the reasons we have given for refusing to provide information, you have the right to appeal. You can complain about the range, amount and format of information we have sent following a request. You can also complain about the way a request was handled, for example, the time it took to respond.

How Do I Complain?

To deal with your complaint as quickly as possible, it will help if you can give us as much information as you can about the original request made and the reason for your complaint. Please put your complaint in writing and address it to:

FOI Appeals

[Humberside Police Information Compliance Unit](#)

Police Headquarters

Priory Road

Hull HU5 5SF

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What Happens To My Complaint?

Once we have enough details to identify the request, we will begin the review. The Head of The Information Compliance Unit will normally review your complaint. In the more complex cases a review panel consisting of a number of senior personnel from the Force will re-examine your complaint. We aim to complete the review process within 20 days of receiving your complaint. Upon completion we will send you the findings.

How Will I Be Notified?

Where we have not followed procedures or have failed to provide acceptable quality of service, we will apologise and explain what we will do to ensure this doesn't happen again. If our original decision to withhold information is over-turned on appeal we will send you the additional information immediately. If we believe that our original response was correct we will let you know, and inform you of your options (see below).

What If I'm Still Not Satisfied?

If we have been unable to resolve your complaint and you are not satisfied you can approach the office of the Information Commissioner, who may investigate the matter on your behalf. This option is open to you at all times, but we will endeavour to address your complaint initially, as this may lead to a speedier resolution. It is the Information Commissioner who decides whether to investigate or not. We will co-operate fully with the Information Commissioner.

If you have any further questions about the complaints process, please contact the Information Compliance Unit on 01482 317097 or alternatively you can write to:

Head of Information Compliance Unit
Humberside Police Headquarters
Priory Road
Hull HU5 5SF
Email: Informationcomplianceunit@humberside.pnn.police.uk

Requests for a review by the Information Commissioner should be made in writing directly to:

The Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

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