



WEST MERCIA PCC: DISCLOSURE LOG RESPONSE TO REQUEST

Reference: 2017 - 130

Date of response 28th February 2017

FOI Query

Original Request

Under the FOI act could you please provide me with the following information for each of the police forces you represent :

1. How many times in 2016 your respective police forces attended "illegal hunts using dogs"?
2. How many arrests, charges, cautions and prosecutions were made by your respective police forces? Could this information be sorted into pro hunt and anti hunt cases please?
3. How many complaints were made to your respective police forces alleging assault and intimidation and by whom (pro hunt/anti hunt)?
4. How many of the complaints from 3. above resulted in your police officers "refusing" to take the correct and appropriate action?
5. What is your official policy on policing "illegal hunts using dogs"?

Subsequent Request.

I am stunned and surprised that not one of the PCC's has the information requested. In view of this AND every one of you failing to answer question 5 which IS directed at the individual PCC's themselves could I request the following information under the FOI Act:-

1. What is the official policy of the PCC on their individual police forces FAILING to police illegal hunts properly and take appropriate action when informed of and presented with evidence of assault and intimidation?

Complaints

1

If you think that the Police and Crime Commissioner has failed to supply information in accordance with the publication scheme, then you should write in the first instance, to the:

Chief Executive, OPCC – West Mercia, Hindlip Hall, Worcester. WR3 8SP

The PCC will aim to deal with your complaint within 10 working days. If you are dissatisfied with the response you can ask for the matter to be internally reviewed. Internal reviews will be completed promptly and a response given to you within 20 working days of your further request.

If, after the internal review, you remain dissatisfied, then you can complain to the Information Commissioner (Office of the Information Commissioner), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF).



2. If the PCC does not hold the information requested in my original email, does it hold ANY information on ANY subject relating to the performance of their individual police forces? If so, could I please have details of the type of information held.
3. An answer to question 5 in my original email below please. This is a direct question on PCC policy.

Response to the original request.

Regarding points 1-5, no information is held by this office, your request was passed to the West Mercia Force for their response.

Response to the subsequent request.

1. There is no policy specific to police forces failure to police illegal hunts properly. Any alleged failures by the Police would, in the first instance, be dealt with by individual force Professional Standards Departments for investigation. No allegations of any such failure have been brought to the attention of the PCC in West Mercia by members of the public.
2. This question is extremely broad and isn't valid under Section 8 (1)(c) of the FOI Act 2000, as it does not specify the exact information you are requesting.
3. There is no policy on policing illegal hunts using dogs. Nor should there be as operational policing policies are the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

Complaints

2

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