

Request Number – 000967/18
Date of Decision – 26/03/2018
Subject Area - Statistics
Decision – Excess Costs

Request

What practical procedure/s does your force have in place to ensure the review and or deletion of custody images after 6 years?

If there is a procedure in place, how many images have been deleted as the result of a periodic review (rather than following an individual's application for deletion)?

How many images on your custody image database are of unconvicted persons?

Since February 2017, how much has your force spent on the deletion of custody images of unconvicted people?

Reply

Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Lincolnshire 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.

I have reviewed your request, and it has been estimated that to locate, retrieve and extract any of the information (if held) that you require, would exceed the 'Appropriate Limit' set within the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit'. For police forces in the UK, the 'appropriate limit' is considered to be up to 18 hours of work, or £450 at £25 an hour, on one request. This information is given in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In relation to your request this would require Lincolnshire Police to manually review all cases in the time period.

Consequently, it has been estimated that in order to provide you with the information you request the cost threshold of 18 hours of work would be exceeded.

Lincolnshire Police in complying with their statutory duty under sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to release the enclosed information will not breach the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. However, the rights of the copyright owner of the enclosed information will continue to be protected by law. Applications for the copyright owner's written permission to reproduce any part of the attached information should be addressed to The Force Solicitor, Lincolnshire Police, PO Box 999, Lincoln LN5 7PH

Unfortunately, due to the way in which information is held in relation to the requested information I am unable to provide advice in relation to refining your request.

Therefore the request is refused under Section 12 (Excess Costs)

Please also be aware that Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide crime statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the crime data. It should be noted that for these reasons this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.