



Humberside Police
Corporate Development Branch
Information Compliance Unit
Police Headquarters
Priory Road
Kingston Upon Hull
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Your Ref:
Our Ref: F-2013-01453

09 October, 2013

Dear XXXX

FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT 2000 Reference No: F-2013-01453

Thank you for your request for Information, received at this office on 11 September, 2013, in which you requested details of the following:

- a) the number of honour crimes recorded in your force area each year from 2008 onwards. If possible, please provide the numbers by crime type e.g. murder, assault.**
- b) the number and type of sanction detections for honour crimes in those years.**
- c) the total expenditure/resources your force allocated to combating honour crime in the same years.**

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

All Police Forces record details of crimes in different ways.

Honour Based Crime is often the descriptive 'overview' of crimes committed against victims of a particular faith or religion. If an individual has been the victim of an assault, the crime would be recorded in line with the Home Office descriptors. Honour Based Violence may not necessarily be mentioned. This is the problem that this force faces when searching for such crimes. In many cases victims can be too afraid to give full details, consequently we cannot guarantee the accuracy of figures held. For 2012 and 2013 alone, there are over 2000 crimes where Honour Based Violence could feature eg assault, crimes of a sexual nature. Every log would have to be accessed to determine whether HBV is a feature. However this force has the following figures recorded where HBV is mentioned and hold statistics back to 2009:

Chief Constable Ms J Curran QPM Deputy Chief Constable D J Griffin QPM, MA
Assistant Chief Constable (Operations Support) A Leaver Assistant Chief Constable (Operations) S M Donald QPM, MA
Assistant Chief Officer (Support) P S Goatley BA (Hons), CPFA Assistant Chief Officer (Human Resources) I Watson MBA, MSc, FCIPD
Web site: www.humberside.police.uk

2009 – 6
2010 – 15
2011 – 19
2012 - 19

Honour based violence is a crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of a family and/or a community and can include assaults, disfigurement, sexual assault and rape, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, kidnap, false imprisonment and stalking.

The victims of these crimes are extremely vulnerable and in some cases the police work with other organisations in order to protect victims. Identification of an individual would have serious consequences for those reporting honour based violence.

I am obliged to apply section 40(2) and section 44(1) of the Act as part of my response in relation to a breakdown of the offences.

As section 40 and section 44 are both absolute exemptions there is no requirement for me to conduct a public interest test.

There are Prohibitions on Disclosure as the Sexual Offences Act 1992 which extends the anonymity that was once given only to victims of rape, now extends to victims of most other sexual offences. Schedule 2 (as amended by Schedule 6 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 provides a list of offences, the victims of which are guaranteed anonymity under the provision of Section 1. In addition, the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 prohibits publication of details of children involved in certain court proceedings Under section 17 of the Act this represents a refusal notice for your request.

With regards to arrests and convictions, no information is held in relation to HBV. If a murder occurred, it would be recorded as such, not HBV.

No information is held in relation to expenditure. This force has a crime management support unit that would investigate crimes such as these. All front line staff (officers and police staff) have received guidance and training in dealing with serious sensitive crimes where HBV could be involved. This is as well as all the many investigations that the officers working in that department will investigate.

You may find that within the document(s) provided information has been redacted. Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Humberside 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. This letter acts as that notice.

Should you need to discuss this further please contact Paul Waller, Information Compliance Officer on the above details.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Waller
Information Compliance Officer
Information Compliance Unit - Humberside

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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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