



NORFOLK
CONSTABULARY
Our Priority is You

January 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 004549/16

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk Constabulary on the 19th December 2016 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Total number of missing adults
- 2 Total number of missing persons with dementia (PwD)
- 3 Number of missing PwD individuals defined as absent
- 4 Number of missing PwD investigations that were classed as high-risk
- 5 Number of missing PwD investigations that were classed as medium-risk
- 6 Number of missing PwD found by the Police that were reported to the Police
- 7 Number of missing PwD cases determined to be repeat wanderers
- 8 Type of harm suffered by missing PwD whilst lost (numbers of)
 - Accidental
 - Emotional
 - Found deceased
 - Physical injury
 - Self-harmed
 - Sexual offence victim
 - No harm suffered
- 9 Number of missing PwD cases that received hospital treatment (Accident & Emergency) upon being found by the Police
- 10 Proportion of missing PwD from residential/nursing care facilities
- 11 Has the Police Service costed out missing PwD investigations
*Costs: please state whether they are officer hourly rate or full costs incorporating employer's on-costs. - Yes / No
Please provide financial breakdown of individual case investigation costs calculated by the Force.
- 12 Provide total investigation time for each investigation (days/hours) and numbers of Officers & staff involved.

Response to your Request

When responding to a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, a public authority is not obliged to provide information if the authority estimates that the cost of the retrieval of the information requested would be in excess of £450 (equivalent to 18 hours work).

The costs criteria relates to a request in its entirety, which means that if we cannot retrieve *all* of the information requested within the costs limit, we are not obliged to retrieve *any* of the information requested.

The Norfolk Constabulary estimates that to retrieve all the information you have requested would exceed cost in excess of £450.

In order to establish what relevant information is held, we have contacted our Safeguarding and Investigations Command. They have advised that parts of your request would exceed the 18 hour

limit. With regard to question 12, this information is not centrally collated. Details of officers and staff involved with an investigation would be updated by Control Room staff as the incident is running. Information would also be held within a missing person record on the Constabulary's COMPACT (missing person database). The total amount of time may not be recorded in detail therefore any information that is held may not be accurate.

Additionally, sufficient information regarding missing persons with dementia is not held on COMPACT for 2013/14, therefore it has not been possible to extract this information electronically. Again, this information may be held within incident reports and could only be identified by manually reviewing each one.

With regard to question 1, there were 2,278 adults reported missing in the financial year 2013/14. With regard to question 12, there were 96 people missing with dementia during the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16. Based on the 96 cases only, estimating 30 minutes or each, this would equate to 48 hours. This alone would exceed the appropriate limit for dealing with a Freedom of Information request, in terms of cost, and therefore Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act applies.

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”.

The Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, defines the 'appropriate limit' for the Norfolk Constabulary as £450, and specifies that this sum equates to 18 hours work at a standard rate of £25 per hour.

In accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for your request.

Advice & Assistance

Although excess cost removes the Constabulary's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relevant to your request, which was retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Q1

Total Adults Reported Missing		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
2278	2423	2108

Q2

Total Missing Persons with Dementia (PwD)		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
Section 12	32	64

Q3

Total Missing Persons with Dementia (PwD) defined as Absent		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	0	0

Q4

Total Missing Persons with Dementia (PwD) classed as High Risk		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	18	24

Q5

Total Missing Persons with Dementia (PwD) classed as Medium Risk		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	15	40

Q6

Total Missing found by the Police who were reported to the Police		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	20	26

Q7

Missing Persons with Dementia who had been missing previously		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	9	14

Q8

Type of harm suffered by Missing Person with Dementia		
	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
Accidental	0	1
Emotional	0	0
Found Deceased	0	0
Physical Injury	3	4
Sel-harmed	1	0
Sexual Offence Victim	0	0
No harm suffered	28	59

Q9

Missing Persons with Dementia who received hospital treatment upon being found by Police		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	2	2

Q10

Missing Persons with Dementia from residential/nursing care facilities		
F/Y 2013/14	F/Y 2014/2015	F/Y2015/2016
-	2	11

Q11 No information held.