



June 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 004994/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 17th May 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 Does your force train officers in Achieving Best Evidence (ABE) Interviews?
- 2 Which teams receive ABE training?
- 3 How many officers have received ABE refresher training in the last 4 years?
- 4 If you are unable to confirm the number of officers trained can you confirm the last 5 dates of the refresher courses your force has provided?
- 5 If your force does not provide refresher training does your force use another force or commercial provider for refresher ABE training?
- 6 Does your force use Registered Intermediaries in all ABE interviews for all children under 11?
- 7 What has been your forces expenditure been on Registered Intermediaries since 2014?

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 17th May 2017. Norfolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

- Q1 Yes, officers are training in ABE interviews.
- Q2 ABE training is an essential skill for all Child Abuse, Adult Abuse and Rape investigation detectives therefore officers in these areas will be trained. It is a desirable skill for CID detectives and uniformed officers therefore some will undertake training.
- Q3 123 officers have received ABE refresher training between 2nd June 2016 and 16th May 2017. ABE refresher training has only been delivered between these dates. There are 20 scheduled to receive training between 6th June and 20th July 2017 with a further 46 still to be allocated a course for the annual event.
- Q4 Not applicable.
- Q5 Not applicable.
- Q6 The Constabulary considers this in all cases and carry out an Achieving Best Evidence Language Screen (ABELS) assessment to provide a structured rationale for any decision to proceed to ABE, with or without a Registered Intermediary.
- Q7 Figures prior to the 2015/16 financial year are not available as the Constabulary did not have a subjective code to monitor relevant costs. Figures have been provided below for the financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17. Please note, these figures are lower than expected, this may be due to the costs being coded to other investigative expenses.

F/Y 2015/16 £2,740
F/Y 2016/17 £2,839