

Our Ref: 006633/13



Mr Paul McNamara  
9 Heneage Street  
Spitalfields  
London  
E1 5LJ

**Freedom of Information Section**  
Nottinghamshire Police HQ  
Sherwood Lodge, Arnold  
Nottingham NG5 8PP

**Tel:** 101  
**Ext** 800 2507  
**Fax:** 0115 967 2896

31 July 2013

Dear Mr McNamara

**Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

I write in connection with your request for information, which was received by Nottinghamshire Police on 3 July 2013.

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Nottinghamshire Police to locate the information you require.

Please find below answers to your questions:-

**RESPONSE**

Under S 1 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), I can confirm that Nottinghamshire Police does hold the information you have requested.

***I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for information on the deployment of Tasers against animals.***

***More specifically I am requesting the following:***

***1 a) On how many occasions in 2013 (up until today's date 2 July 2013) was a Taser deployed against an animal. Please provide the species of animal as well as how the Taser was deployed (i.e. drive-stun mode, firings and incidents where the taser was drawn and aimed.)***

Nil

***b) Please also provide a summary for each incident.***

N/A

***Please could you also provide:***

***2) The same for 2012***

Taser was fired on one occasion against an animal in September 2012 against a stray dangerous dog which subsequently became compliant.

***3) The same for 2011***

Taser used on two occasions against an animal during this period.

In February 2011 a taser was fired against a dangerous pit bull in a public park with a children's play area. The dog had attacked it's owner and members of the public.

In May 2011 a taser was fired against a large aggressive dog whilst Officers were carrying out a Section 18 search of an address. The dog prevented the Officers from carrying out their search and attempts to restrain the dog were unsuccessful therefore taser was authorised for Officer safety.

***4) The same for 2010***

Taser was used on three occasions against an animal during this period.

In June 2010 a taser was fired against a dog. The circumstances were that a Police Dog Officer was dispatched to an incident of two dogs fighting. The Officer deployed taser against one dog and the animals were successfully separated.

In July 2010 a taser was fired against a dog which had attacked his owner. The dog was subsequently subdued.

In December 2010 a taser was fired against a dog which had bitten members of the public. Taser was deployed to subdue the animal and enable safe capture.

***If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act.***

***Please let me know you have received this.***

***If there are any problems, or you need more information, please get in touch.***

**Complaints Rights**

Your attention is drawn to the enclosed review procedure, which details your right of complaint.

**Copyright**

Nottinghamshire Police in complying with their statutory duty under Sections 1 and 11 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) 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, Nottinghamshire Police, Force Headquarters, Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottinghamshire, NG5 8PP.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Nottinghamshire Police.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer on telephone number 0115 9672507 or e-mail [freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:freedomofinformation@Nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk) quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

**Disclosure Officer**

## **Are you dissatisfied with your response?**

If so, prior to lodging a formal complaint, you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

### **Ask to have the decision looked at again**

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision reconsidered is to telephone the case officer that is identified at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

### **Formal Independent Review**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Nottinghamshire Police under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you can request an Independent Review.

Upon receipt for a review of the initial request response, an independent audit officer from Information Management will review the request and assess whether it has been satisfactorily processed in accordance with policy and procedure.

Requests for Independent Reviews requests should be made in writing to-

Force Information Manager  
Nottinghamshire Police  
Force Headquarters  
Sherwood Lodge  
Arnold  
Nottingham  
NG5 8PP

The Audit officer will record and communicate his/her decision to the information requester within 20 working days.

### **Appeals**

If the findings of the formal independent review do not meet your approval, you can register an appeal against the decision.

An investigation will then take place by the Freedom of Information officer, which will be reported and presented to the Internal Appeal Board. This will include a full account of the reasoning for or against disclosure and the application of any relevant exemptions.

The Internal Appeal Board will consist of at least a member of the Chief Officer Team, a member of the Legal Team and the Force Information Manager.

Appeals should be registered in writing to:

Freedom of Information Officer  
Nottinghamshire Police  
Force Headquarters  
Sherwood Lodge  
Arnold  
Nottingham  
NG5 8PP

Alternatively E-mail: [Freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Freedomofinformation@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)

Or call: 01159672507

**Applications to the Information Commissioner**

If you then remain dissatisfied, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner, please visit their website at [www.informationcommisioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommisioner.gov.uk)

Alternatively, Write to:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Or call: 01625 545700.