



Our Ref: 713.2020-21

Your Ref:

Date: 7 January 2021

Civil Disclosure
Joint Corporate Legal Services

Dear applicant,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 713.2020-21

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by North Yorkshire Police on 7 December 2020. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. Did you attend the 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2019 FBINAA conferences, where were they and did you receive any police funding for your attendance?*
- 2. What was the duty you incurred subsistence charges of £7.90 and £10.60 on the 24th of February 2020?*
- 3. What was the purpose of your trip to Boston, how long were you there and which hotel did you stay in along with the star rating?*
- 4. Were you on leave or on duty when you flew to Boston.*
- 5. Why was the air fare excluded from the original publication of expenses at the end of the 2020 Financial Year?*
- 6. Why have none of the expenses for your Boston visit been disclosed in the Force website for expenditure greater than £500 in October 2019?
<https://northyorkshire.police.uk/about/finance/expenditure-over-500/>*
- 7. Why are some items redacted from the Force website Expenditure greater than £500 schedule?*
- 8. Why was the review of the Boston air fare conducted, when was it conducted and who conducted it?*
- 9. Did you receive an overtime payment for attending the Helsinki conference?*

Jane Wintermeyer BSc (Hons) Force Solicitor & Head of Legal Services
Police Headquarters | Alverton Court | Crosby Road | Northallerton | North Yorkshire | DL6 1BF
DX No 68810 NORTHALLERTON 2 | Telephone 01609 643542 | Fax 01609 789987

Non-emergency
Number



10. What was the purpose of Chief Constable Jones's visit to Belfast on the 27th and 28th of September 2014 and why has this not been charged to the PSNI?

11. What was the purpose of Chief Constable Jones's visit to Belfast on the 9th and 10th of May 2017 and why has this not been charged to the PSNI?

12. What was the purpose of Acting Chief Constable Madgwick's trip to Dublin on the 25th of May 2016, did he receive security clearance for it and were the Irish authorities informed about his journey?

13. What does TMP stand for?

14. Who determined that the format of the Chief Officer's expenses information should change from the attached format to the new one and why was this change implemented?

15. Are you entitled to holiday in lieu of overtime for time worked on weekends and if so, who approved it and how many other officers are entitled to time off in lieu of overtime worked?

16. What are the current non UK stay allowances?

17. What were the non UK stay allowances in place at the time of the Helsinki conference?

18. Who authorised the expenditure of taxpayers funds for Operation Hyson in addition to PFCC Mulligan, CC Jones and Ms Joanna Carter?

<https://www.northyorkshire-pfcc.gov.uk/decision-notice/0112015-formal-support-explanation-police-crime-commissioner-regarding-funding-ongoing-civil-litigation-action-protect-officers-members-public-alleged-p/>

19. Any other information you or Ms Fryer may wish to add.

Extent of Searches to Locate Information

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within North Yorkshire Police to locate relevant information.

Decision

I am not obliged to provide you with a response to your request pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). Please note that when one part of your request falls under Section 12, we are not obliged to review the rest of the questions and the whole request is therefore exempt.

Section 12(1) applies to your request as the cost of complying with your request is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond *i.e.* the cost of identifying and retrieving any relevant information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

Due to the nature of our recording systems the information requested, is not in an easily retrievable format. In the years 2012 to 2015, the Chief Constable was not a Chief Officer, and therefore any information relating to conferences, travel, accommodation and other expenses at this time would have been recorded as any other Police Officer or Staff member. It would therefore be necessary to

manually review all payroll and expense claim records over those four years, in addition to capita travel information and accommodation invoices, to see if information is held that is relevant to your request. For information, any accounts data held relating to activities of Officers and Staff outside of the Chief Officer Team is organised by Financial Year under the relevant cost centre and nominal code categories and is not held under the Officer or Staff member's name.

Additionally, your request asks for information relating to visits that may have been carried out by previous Chief Officers, who have since retired from the Force. When Officers and Staff members leave North Yorkshire Police, their email and digital diary accounts are deleted, which means that any information regarding Chief Officer movements is no longer held centrally. In order to retrieve any such data held by the Force, it would be necessary to retrieve any emails using search terms deemed relevant for the task, and for these emails to then be manually reviewed. Additionally, manual searches would need to be carried out within key departments within the Force to see if relevant information was held in meeting minutes, notebooks etc around any such visits.

Carrying out the above actions alone would mean reading through thousands of records and would therefore exceed the cost threshold allowed under the Act.

Pursuant to Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

Pursuant to Section 16 of the Act I am required to offer you advice and assistance with regarding to refining your request to within the 'appropriate limit' (time/cost limit). You may wish to remove questions relating to expenses or activities relating to retired/non-Chief Officers.

Please note that systems used for recording information are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted therefore that this force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other responses you may receive.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet which details your right of complaint.

If you have any queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Liz Fryar
Legal Officer (Civil Disclosure)
Joint Corporate Legal Services
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COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require the North Yorkshire Police to review their decision.

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 looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

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

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of the North Yorkshire Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with the North Yorkshire Police to have the decision reviewed. North Yorkshire Police must be notified of your intention to complain within 2 months of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Force Solicitor and Head of Legal Services
North Yorkshire Police
Alverton Court
Crosby Road
Northallerton
North Yorkshire
DL6 1BF

In all possible circumstances the North Yorkshire Police will aim to respond to your complaint as soon as practicable but within 20 working days.

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with North Yorkshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make 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 application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk> Alternatively, phone: 0303 123 1113 or write to:

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