



Nottinghamshire

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER



Our Ref: 3670/14

8 July 2014

Dear

Re: Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for your request for information, which was received by the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner on 5 June 2014.

INFORMATION REQUESTED & RESPONSE

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

Please find below answers to your questions:-

- 1) Does Nottinghamshire have a wildlife crime strategy (if not are there plans to do so)?

There is a key Priority for the Commissioner to 'Focus on priority crime types and those local areas that are most affected by crime and anti-social behaviour', as part of this priority, there is a specific action to 'work with partners to protect local natural environments from issues of trespass, damage and wildlife crime and tackle rural crime of theft and improve cross border working'. There has been a focus with our Chairs of Strategic Partnerships on wildlife crime, and work with the Commissioner with various groups to further understand the issues and develop a way forward with regular meetings, together with commissioning a small grant funding for a Rural Crime Conference. There has been the development of the Commissioner's Social Responsibility Strategy and this is intended to be supported by developing a Wildlife Crime Strategy.

- 2) Does Nottinghamshire currently record wildlife crime and if so how many have there been over the past three years?

We do not hold this information; Nottinghamshire Police will provide a response.

- 3) Does Nottinghamshire currently provide wildlife crime intelligence to the National Wildlife Crime Unit (if not are there plans to do so)?

We do not hold this information; Nottinghamshire Police will provide a response.

The Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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- 4) How many wildlife crime officers does Nottinghamshire currently have, how many hours a week do they work directly on wildlife crime and are there plans to formalise this role if it hasn't been already?

Currently there are no dedicated officers to Wildlife Crime in Nottinghamshire. However, there are a couple of officers who dedicate part of their time. Through the work of the Commissioner, it has been identified that there are opportunities to develop Rural Constables, and the Commissioner is working with the Chief Constable to develop the volunteering to support wildlife crime.

- 5) Have you undertaken any additional activities since taking office to promote wildlife crime enforcement (please provide detail)?

There has been support through the NFU to fund a questionnaire, which has informed the first Police and Crime Plan, there have been conferences that have been supported by the Commissioner, and there have been regular dialogue with various groups covering the Wildlife Trust, Ramblers, Badger Groups etc. More work will be done over the coming year, and there will be further funding made available to the NFU to repeat the questionnaire to influence the Police and Crime Plan for next year. The issue of wildlife crime will be included in the Police and Crime Needs Assessment which is being conducted in partnership across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. There will be regular meetings led by the Commissioner to develop the agenda, which will include the need to raise public awareness and reporting of wildlife crime.

The Commissioner would like to extend an invite to the next meeting we are setting up for wildlife crime.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact the Freedom of Information Officer on 0115 8445998 or e-mail nopcc@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Pearson
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Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner