



FOI ref no: 14357

16th May 2022

Freedom of Information request: reference 14357 first notified to us by email on 28th April 2022. Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as detailed below:

I refer to the above Court of Appeal decision, (Evans & Ashcroft v Chief Constable of South Wales Police judgement Oct 2018), which has affected all forces.

Briefly, this related to a case where monies had been unlawfully deducted from police injury pensions and basically, injury retired officers had had benefits over-deducted from their injury pensions since 2010.

This FOI asks you to please provide information regarding the following:

- 1) Please provide a list of the individual amounts of back pay made with the dates that the payment was made and the corresponding payment of interest.*
- 2) Please provide a list of individual amounts that were calculated as overpayments.*
- 3) Please provide a list of overpayments that have been repaid.*
- 4) Please provide an explanation of the calculation of interest and where the decision to pay interest at 1% and not 8% was made.*

To be clear, I am not asking for any personal identifiable information about the persons involved.

Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:

Staffordshire Police does hold the requested information but in accordance with Section 17 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this particular request.

I am applying the exemption under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (where the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit). 'Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the prescribed limit'.

The issue is that there is no readily retrievable way of obtaining the requested information. There were several hundred Staffordshire Police pensioners at the time to whom this court judgement may have applied but a very labour intensive manual trawl through all of these records would be required to accurately collate the details requested. The research required would exceed the 18-hour time and cost threshold stipulated by the FOI Act by some considerable margin.

Unfortunately I am unable to suggest any way in which your request could be simplified/pared down in order to bring it within the confines of the time and cost threshold.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

foi@staffordshire.police.uk

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit
Staffordshire Police HQ
PO Box 3167
Stafford
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Freedom of Information
Central Disclosure Unit

Produced by Staffordshire Police
for FOI 14357