



Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commission

Freedom of Information Act

Request Response

No. 002150/14

Question

1. Is there a dedicated corporate communications / press department in this police force? If not, does your police force share or are in collaboration with another police force?
2. What is the name of the department(s) that deals with public relations, the press and social media in this police force? And have there been any previous names that this department was known by?
3. When was this department first established?
4. Who has operational control of the department – the Chief Constable or PCC? And is this likely to change in the next year?
5. How many people currently work in this department?
6. How many people worked in this department in 2004 and 1994?
7. What is the yearly budget for this department from 2000–2014?
8. Which social media / networking websites does your police force use? How many official Twitter accounts and Facebook pages are there for this police force?
9. Does your police force have a Press/Media policy? If so, when was the earliest policy first introduced and where can I find a copy of the latest policy?

10. Does your police force have a digital media / social networking policy? If so, when was the earliest policy first introduced and where can I find a copy of the latest policy?

11. How many complaints have been made between 2005 and 2014 regarding police officers or staff posting inappropriate comments/material online?

12. How many investigations have been conducted / complaints received in relation to the inappropriate disclosure of information to third parties (e.g. press) both through conventional mediums and social media between 2004 and 2014?

Answer

I can confirm that Northamptonshire Police holds the information requested as follows:

1. Staff employed in the News & Public Involvement Team provide strategic support services to both The PCC and the Chief Constable.

2. News and Public Involvement Team
Previously – Corporate Communications Team / Research Team

3. 1 July 2014

4. Peter Heaton – Assistant Commissioner Public Involvement. There are there are no plans for this to change.

5. Please see following link:
<http://www.northantspcc.org.uk/docs/transparency/Structure%20Chart.pdf>

6. This information was held prior to electronic records so would mean a manual search through historic records and would take the request over cost.

I can provide the following numbers as follows:

2009/10 – 17.66 FTE

2010/11 – 20.86 FTE

2011/12 – 19.36 FTE

2012/13 – 15.86 FTE

2013/14 – 17.00FTE

7. This information was held prior to electronic records so would mean a manual search through historic records and would take the request over cost.

I can provide the following information:

2009/10 – £596k

2010/11 – £699k

2011/12 – £668k

2012/13 – £589k

2013/14 – £685k

8. The Force has one Facebook page and currently 83 Twitter accounts.

9. Up to the introduction of the College of Policing's Guidance on Relationships with the media published in May 2013 (http://www.college.police.uk/en/docs/Media_Relationships_Guidance_0513.pdf), Northamptonshire Police in line with other forces utilised the guidance published by ACPO in 2010, which replaced the ACPO guidance published in 2003.

10. An Online Engagement Procedures policy for the Force was introduced in January 2012. This policy is currently being reviewed and redrafted.

11. One complaint and 13 Conduct cases.

12. 1 investigation re disclosure to press 142 total investigations into inappropriate disclosure of information to third parties