

c/o PO BOX 481  
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Hampshire  
PO14 9FS

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Email: [npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk](mailto:npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk)

27/01/2022

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 042/2022**

Thank you for your request for information regarding NPCC Central Referral (NPFDU) which has now been considered.

**Applicant Question:**

I am a Student Within West Nottinghamshire College and I would like to request information, under the freedom of information act; the ratio between men and women working in your department that is related to computers in either software or hardware such as recovering data on a hard drive.

**NPCC Response:**

The NPCC does hold information captured by your request and I confirm that the NPFDU has 10 members of staff. There are two males within the department, and whilst a ratio isn't recorded, I can confirm that personnel records would support this number. I can confirm that all members of the NPFDU use software and hardware for IT purposes.

I can confirm that this represents 20% of the department. Further information relating to the role of the NPFDU can be found via the following direct web-link:

<https://www.npcc.police.uk/NationalPolicing/NationalPoliceFreedomofInformationandDataProtection.aspx>

The NPFDU acts as a national co-ordination body in providing professional advice and support for forces and stakeholders in all matters relating to both Freedom of Information and Data Protection within the UK police service.

I've also included a link to the NPCC website which provides further information on the role of the NPCC. As you will appreciate, the NPCC is made up of many stakeholders across the United Kingdom Police Service. Should you wish to request personnel information, the information would be held by individual force Human Resources.

<https://www.npcc.police.uk>

Yours sincerely

**Sherry Traquair**

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[www.npcc.police.uk](http://www.npcc.police.uk)

## **COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

### Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 20 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

## Annex A

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the NPCC, when refusing to provide information by way of exemption in question and (c) states why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a refusal notice to those aspects of your request.

### **The legislation: Section 40 Personal Information**

(5) the duty to confirm or deny-

- a) does not arise in relation to information which is (or if it were held by the public authority would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1), and (b) does not arise in relation to other information if or to the extent that either-
- i. the giving to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the data protection principles or section 110 of the Data Protection Act 1998 or would do so if the exemptions in section 33A(1) of that Act were disregarded, or
- ii. by virtue of any provision of Part IV of the Data Protection Act 1998 the information is exempt from section 7(1)(a) of that Act (data subject's right to be informed whether personal data being processed).

Where S40(5) personal information applies, the NPCC has determined that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exclusion of the duty to neither confirm nor deny outweighs the public interest in confirming whether or not information is held.

The above is the statutory response I am compelled to give you but it may assist you in understanding this by pointing out that confirming nor denying whether we do or do not hold information would disclose personal information.

This would breach the Data protection Act, by virtue of the first principle, which relates to fairness. This cannot be taken as an inference that the information you have requested does nor does not exist.

### **Legislation – Section 16**

- (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.