



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working for a safer London

Ms Heather Brooke

Saeed Yusuf

Telephone:
Facsimile:
e-mail:

www.met.police.uk

Your ref:
Our ref: 2005010000149

24/01/2005

Freedom of Information Request Reference No: 2005010000149

I write in connection with your request for information dated 01/01/2005 which was received by the Metropolitan Police Service(MPS) on 05/01/2005. I note you seek access to the following information:

- Weekly crime statistics for Victoria Park for the past two years and the number of officers who currently patrol the park on a daily basis

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within the MPS to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by the MPS.

EXTENT OF SEARCHES TO LOCATE INFORMATION

To locate the information relevant to your request searches were conducted at Bethnal Green Police Station.

RESULT OF SEARCHES

The searches located one record relevant to your request.

DECISION

I have today decided to:

- partially disclose the crime statistics for Victoria Park for the past two years

- pursuant to the provisions of section 40 (3) of the Act.
- fully exempt records relating to the number of officers who currently patrol Victoria Park pursuant to the provisions of section 31 of the Act.

REASONS FOR DECISION

Section 40(3) of the Act states:

(a) in a case where the information falls within any of the paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of 'data' in s(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise under the Act would contravene - (i) any of the data protection principles, or (ii) s10 of that Act (right to prevent processing likely to cause damage or distress), and

(b) in any other case, that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene any of the data protection principles if the exemptions in s33a(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (which relate to manual data held by public authorities) were disregarded

Therefore, all information defined as 'data' within paragraphs (a) to (d) in s(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 have been redacted from the crime statistics relating to Victoria Park.

Section 31 of the Act states:

Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to:

- (a) Prejudice the prevention or detection of crime
- (b) The apprehension or prosecution of offenders

If any information relating to the deployment of officers to Victoria Park became public knowledge, then this would compromise the MPS ability to police the park.

After weighing up the competing interests I have determined that the disclosure of the above information would not be in the public interest.

Please find enclosed a compact disc containing the crime statistics for Victoria Park for the past two years.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

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

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in the MPS.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact Saeed Yusuf on telephone number 020 8217 4195 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Saeed Yusuf
Information Manager

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 Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) 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 MPS made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with the MPS to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Public Access Office
New Scotland Yard
Broadway
London
SW1H 0BG

In all possible circumstances the MPS will aim to respond to your complaint within three months.

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with the MPS 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 www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700