3rd December 2018

Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20182097

REQUEST

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:
1. *How many frontline police officers are trained to use a taser? Please provide a total figures and percentage of total frontline workforce.*
2. *Does the force have plans to equip more officers with tasers? If so, how many more?*
3. *In the last two years, how many times have police officers been physically assaulted while on duty? Please provide a yearly breakdown, including examples of the most serious cases.*

CLARIFICATION

Please could you clarify the following point(s): -

The below link to our Freedom of Information Disclosure Log will assist in answering Q1 and Q2. Can you advise how you wish me to proceed.

South Yorkshire Police has received a number of similar requests to yours in the past. All such requests and responses are published on the Force Disclosure Log, which can be found on the South Yorkshire Police website at: -

https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/staff-numbers-taser-firearm-officers-ref-20181770/

FROM THE REQUESTER

Thanks for the information. Question 3 has since been revised… "Since 01/01/2016 how many times have police officers been physically assaulted while on duty? Please provide a yearly breakdown, including examples of the most serious cases."

RESPONSE

I approached South Yorkshire Police HR Shared Services for assistance with your request. HR hold a record of recordable injuries. They advised they:

"can tell you how many Officers have received and injury due to assault, but not how many Officers have been assaulted as this is different"

"Please see attached information informing of Assaults resulting in recordable injury"

It should be noted this is not a total picture of all assaults that may have happened but a record of recordable injuries held by SYP, a non-injury would not be recorded.