

16 May 2023

Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service FOI 2390/23 - Sustainable Transport and Cycling

Request:

This is a data request both under the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations. It is specifically asking about your Fire and Rescue organisations rather than other bodies, as it is being used for benchmarking purposes.

In consideration of the climate crisis, I would like to request the following information about how the organisation is enabling staff to reduce their emissions through sustainable transport, and more specifically, cycling.

- 1. over the past five years, broken down by year
 - a. how many staff members used the Cycle to Work scheme?
 - b. what percentage of staff was this?
 - c. what was the average value of the vouchers claimed on the scheme?
 - d. what was the number of those who took up the scheme, who then failed to complete, leaving the organisation with costs?
- 2. what tools does the organisation use to encourage cycling for their staff
 - a. on a work basis
 - b. on a leisure/health basis
- 3. with regards to staff, does the organisation
 - a. have any monitoring for what modes of transport staff use
 - i. for their journey to work
 - ii. for journeys during work time
 - b. and if this data is recorded, I request a copy of such data as detailed as it can be reasonably given, while still protecting personal data rights
- 4. how many of the following does the organisation have available for staff use
 - a. pedal cycles
 - b. electric bikes
 - c. motorbikes
 - d. internal combustion cars
 - e. electric or hybrid cars
 - f. internal combustion vans

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- g. electric or hybrid vans
- h. heavy trucks
- 5. does the organisation mileage scheme clearly state the claim rate for cycling
- 6. how many cycling miles have been claimed by the organisation's staff in the past five years
- 7. Regarding your current cycle to work scheme
 - a. what scheme is currently in place
 - b. what is the maximum limit on the cost of a bike, if a limit is currently in place

Response:

Searches have been conducted in relation to your request, and I can confirm that the following information is held.

- 1. Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) do not have a cycle to work scheme.
- 2. None
- 3. No monitoring is carried out
- 4. Vehicles available for staff use:
 - a. Pedal cycles Nil
 - b. Electric bikes Nil
 - c. Motorbikes Nil
 - d. Internal combustion cars 55
 - e. Electric or hybrid cars Nil
 - f. Internal combustion vans 30
 - g. Electric or hybrid vans Nil
 - h. Heavy trucks 54
- 5. Yes, 20 pence per mile (HMRC rate)
- 6. 0 miles
- 7. Not applicable

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data. The figures provided therefore are our best interpretation of relevance of data to your request, but you should be aware that the collation of figures for ad hoc requests may have limitations and this should be taken into account when the data is used.

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Due to the different methods of recording information across fire services, a specific response from one service should not be seen as an indication of what information could be supplied (within cost) by another. Systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. For this reason responses between services may differ, and should not be used for comparative purposes.

If you decide to write an article / use the enclosed data we would ask you to take into consideration the factors highlighted in this document so as to not mislead members of the public or official bodies, or misrepresent the relevance of the whole or any part of this disclosed material.

APPEAL RIGHTS

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled or you do not think the decision is correct, you have the right to ask for a review of the decision.

Prior to lodging a formal appeal 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 person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Appeal

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision that the Service have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information, you can lodge an appeal to have the decision reviewed.

Appeals should be made in writing within 20 days of receipt of your reply and either emailed to freedomofinformation@northants.police.uk or addressed to:

Freedom of Information Manager
Information Unit
Northamptonshire Police Headquarters
Wootton Hall

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Where possible the Service will aim to respond to your appeal within 20 working days. However meeting this time scale will depend upon the circumstances and complexity of the issue.

The Information Commissioner

After lodging an appeal with the Service, if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you may make an 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 an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.ico.org.uk Alternatively, telephone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire

SK9 5AF Phone: 0303 123 1113

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