



## Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service

**28 May 2024**

Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service FOI 4011/24 - External Legal Services

### **Request:**

Could you please send me the following information:

1. What is your spend with external law firms (please provide for the last 4 financial years)
2. Do you use eBilling technology to manage your law firms billing (e.g. systems such as Legal Tracker, Brightflag, Apperio, CT Tymetrix, Mitrates etc.)
3. Who is your Head of Legal or General Counsel (please provide email address)
4. Who is your Head of Procurement (please provide email address)
5. Do you have a law firm panel / preferred supplier list / use a framework to buy your external law firm services. Please provide details were possible.

### **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) accesses legal services from a regional collaborative legal unit: East Midlands Police Legal Services
2. No.
3. Malcolm Turner; E-mail: [legal@derbyshire.police.uk](mailto:legal@derbyshire.police.uk).
4. Leanne Hanson; Email: [commercial@northants.police.uk](mailto:commercial@northants.police.uk)
5. NFRS does not maintain a law firm panel / preferred supplier list / use a framework to access external law firm services.

### **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.

Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Service Headquarters  
Darby House  
Darby Close  
Park Farm Industrial Estate  
Wellingborough  
NN8 6GS  
w. [www.northantsfire.gov.uk](http://www.northantsfire.gov.uk)  
t. 01604 797000





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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](mailto:freedomofinformation@northants.police.uk) or addressed to:

**Freedom of Information Manager**  
**Information Unit**  
**Northamptonshire Police Headquarters**  
**Wootton Hall**  
**Northampton**  
**NN4 0JQ**

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](http://www.ico.org.uk) Alternatively, telephone or write to:

**Information Commissioner's Office**  
**Wycliffe House**

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Service Headquarters  
Darby House  
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**Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF**

**Phone: 0303 123 1113**

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