

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 0184/09**

In reply to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received 25/03/09.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) requires us to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published, and therefore in the public domain without caveat.

### **Request**

(a) On how many occasions were illegal immigrants held in your force's police cells overnight in 2008 as a result of overflow from the immigration detention estate.

(b) On how many occasions were foreign national prisoners held in your force's police cells overnight (excluding those held under Operation Safeguard) in 2008.

(c) How much did the force receive from the Home Office as a recharge of immigration detention costs in 2008.

We have completed all searches within Cambridgeshire Constabulary and hereby enclose your response.

### **Response**

a) Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the "appropriate limit". For Police forces in the UK, the "appropriate limit" is considered to be up to 18 hours of work on one request. This information is given in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

It is estimated that it will take a minimum of 1916 hours at a cost of £25 an hour to view 23,000 records to provide an answer to this request.

b) Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the "appropriate limit". For Police forces in the UK, the "appropriate limit" is considered to be up to 18 hours of work on one request. This information is given in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

It is estimated that it will take a minimum of 1916 hours at a cost of £25 an hour to view 23,000 records to provide an answer to this request.

c) The force received from the Home Office as a recharge of immigration detention costs in 2008 a total of £244,804.09.