Freedom of Information request 84-14

1) Please specify which defibrillators/AED’s you use?

2) Please specify where your defibrillators/AED’s are located by department? i.e. HQ, custody suite, firearms, public order etc.

3) Over the last five years has any of the defibrillators/AED’s being used? Where was it used i.e. custody suite. If so how many times? Did this lead to a successful resuscitation?

4) Does the service carry an defibrillator/AED on behalf of the ambulance servicew and respond to suspected cardiac arrests as a co-responder? Are there any plans too?

5) Approximate age of defibrillator/AED by brand/model. Please specify details below.

6) When are you planning on replacing devices that are over 5 years old?

7) Do you have a contract for the supply of defibrillator/AED’s who is it with and when does it expire?

8) Who is responsible for the defibrillator/AED and the training within your organization?

Do you have a defibrillator/AED policy if so please provide a copy?

RESPONSE

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of the FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which:

a) states that fact
b) specifies the exemption(s) in question and
c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.
In relation to this particular request, the following exemption applies:

**Section 12 - Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit**

Section 12 of the FOIA provides an exemption from a public authority’s obligation to comply with a request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed the *appropriate limit*.

British Transport Police has Defibrillators/AED’s located within Custody suites and in the Police Medic Response Team. In relation to question 3, the information you have requested cannot be easily retrieved. In order to provide the answer to this question for Defibrillators used by the Police Medic Response Team, we would need to manually search through Casualty Report Forms that would have been completed after each incident was attended. Since May 2012, when the Unit was formed, there have been approximately 1500 incidents. It is estimated that it would take approximately 10 minutes to identify the requested information from each Casualty Report Form. Therefore, we estimate that it would take approximately 250 hours to comply with this part of your request.

It is estimated that the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the “appropriate level” as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. In the case of the police service, the appropriate limit is £450 which has been calculated to equate to a total of 18 hours of work. If any part of the request exceeds the fees limit then Section 12 applies to the whole request.

This letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Although excess cost removes the force’s obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

**Question 1**

British Transport Police uses LifePak 1000.

**Question 2**

Defibrillators/AED’s are located in 6 custody suites across London and are also used by the Police Medic Response Team and Network Incident Response Unit.

**Question 3**

As per the explanation above, we are unable to confirm the answer to this question in relation to the Police Medic Response Team.
However, Defibrillators/AED’s have not yet been deployed in custody suites in the last 5 years.

Question 4

British Transport Police does not carry Defibrillators/AED’s on behalf of the Ambulance Service or act as recognised co-responders. There are currently no plans to alter this.

Question 5

The defibrillators currently used by the Police Medic Response Team are 18 months old. The defibrillators currently used in custody suites are 2 years old.

Question 6

Not applicable. British Transport Police does not have any Defibrillators/AED’s over 5 years old.

Question 7

British Transport Police does not have a contract for Defibrillators/AED’s. The units used were sourced by the individual department or supplied by the Ambulance Service and paid for by British Transport Police.

Question 8

The Learning and Development department are responsible for training within British Transport Police.