



Heddlu Police

DYFED-POWYS

FOI Reference: 003/2020

Initial request:

I would be grateful if you would confirm whether Dyfed Powys police has a mounted section. If so, please share the policy related to operational deployment.

Specifically, please disclose whether there has been any mounted police deployment linked to any Hunt meets across the force area.

Please disclose whether there was any mounted police deployment on 26th December 2019.

Please disclose details of any expenses claimed against mounted police deployment for 2019.

Please disclose details of any expenses claimed against mounted police deployment specifically related to hunting, for 2019.

I would appreciate it if you would include disclosure relating to full time and volunteer staff.

***** A response was provided to the above request advising that Dyfed-Powys Police does not have a Mounted Unit and the below further request was received. *****

Further request:

Thank you for your email the content is noted. I would like confirmation please that no expenses have been claimed for any mounted police deployment including volunteer staff. Whilst I acknowledge there is no mounted section, for the elimination of any ambiguity around mounted deployment, I would appreciate confirmation that there has been no equine related expense.

For transparency, I am in possession of photographic images which suggest a volunteer member of Dyfed Powys police was mounted on a horse which appeared to be in police livery (no pun intended), and in attendance at a Boxing Day Hunt.

Response:

I can confirm that Dyfed-Powys Police does hold the information requested, as outlined below.

Dyfed-Powys Police can confirm that one Special Constable was deployed to the Boxing Day Hunt event on 26/12/2019.

Please note: the deployment referred to above was for public engagement purposes only

As at 12/02/2020 the total cost to the force in relation to all mounted activity (not just specifically hunt events) was £4,398.05. This cost is in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure Document for Special Constables on Horseback Section 4.10 SHB which states the following –

'Special Constables will receive reimbursement payments towards the expenses in relation to the horse (£20 per deployment with a cap of £80 per calendar month, none to be carried over). All out of pocket

OFFICIAL

expenses as above are covered under Home Office Guidance on Special Constable Expense and allowance rates (April 2014).'

It should be noted that as a result of the systems adopted by Dyfed-Powys Police in relation to the recording of such information that the information released may or may not be accurate.