

# Nottinghamshire Police Force

[Counting the Crimes 2](#) (CTC2) was written by Action Against Foxhunting in Autumn 2021.

CTC2 is a follow up to our first report [Counting the Crimes: Police Response to Hunt-Related Calls](#).

CTC2 consists of the main body of the report and reports on 34 English police forces.

The report for Nottinghamshire Police is set out below.

All the reports on other forces can be found [here](#)

The report is based on a large amount of [research](#). Some of the research is included in the report, and the rest is available on request. To the best of our knowledge, everything is correct.

[The conviction of Mark Hankinson](#) occurred as we were writing this report. We know that the public will be looking to the police to take action against those who hunt foxes illegally and we hope that this report will be of use as it includes practical advice. The report is intended to be helpful and honest, rather than critical.

For the Facebook links, we are aware that posts on social media are not always completely accurate. We have tried to verify the contents, and have contacted many of the posters for further information. Some have replied, and some have not. We are always interested in hearing different views of the same incidents, and if police are able to provide further insight, we would be happy to include this.

FWG – Frontline Wildlife Guardian. The term includes both saboteurs and monitors.

If any force wishes to discuss the report, please contact us [info@actionagainstfoxhunting.org](mailto:info@actionagainstfoxhunting.org). We are happy to meet on line.



**How did the force respond to CTC?**

- One email
- Exchange of emails
- Meeting
- ✓ No response at all

**Has this force taken any actual steps to improve their relationship with FWGs?**

- Yes
- ✓ No
- Other

**Does this force have an aide memoire or any guide to policing illegal hunting?**

- Yes
- ✓ No

**Why have you given this response?**

They say they use the NPCC guidance.

**How well trained are the police in this force?**

1	2	3	4	5
✓	-	-	-	-

**Why have you given this response?**

6 out of a force of 4719 officers are WCOs. No one else is trained.

**How do you rate this force's behaviour in the field with regard to illegal foxhunting and incidents involving FWGs?**

- Always appear biased
- ✓ Usually appear biased
- Sometimes appear biased
- Rarely appear biased
- Never appear biased

**Why have you given this response?**

FWGs have a very poor relationship with Nottinghamshire Police. They do not report incidents as they think the police will either not respond, or they will show bias towards the hunt.

**Looking at the response to our FOI asking about police systems and organisation with regard to foxhunting, how do you rate their ability to take action on illegal foxhunting?**

1	2	3	4	5
✓	-	-	-	-

**Why have you given this rating?**

No aide memoire, no specific team, very few WCOs.

**Do you think the force focuses too heavily on public order as opposed to dealing with illegal foxhunting?**

- Yes
- No
- ✓ Don't know.

**Why have you given this response?**

Nothing much happens between police and FWGs in Nottinghamshire.

**Overall, how do you rate this force?**

**Take into account willingness to engage with AAF, willingness to engage with FWGs, actions in the field etc.**

1	2	3	4	5
✓	-	-	-	-

**Any other comments?**

With their lack of engagement with AAF, and their limited investment in training, the force appears to have very little interest in foxhunting. There is no mention of foxhunting on their website.

**In the opinion of AAF, how can this police force improve?**

Foxhunting is illegal. The Grove and Rutherford Hunt is active in Nottinghamshire.

After the webinar exposure and the conviction of Mark Hankinson, all police must accept that hunts are setting out to hunt foxes and not to “trail hunt”. They must take action. The first step is to engage with anti-hunt groups, like AAF. Most other police forces engaged with AAF.

The poor relationship between Nottinghamshire Police and the FWGs in the area allows the hunts to hunt foxes without any interference. Nottinghamshire Police are effectively not upholding the law.

Every police force we have spoken to has expressed some degree of frustration regarding the difficulty in communicating with FWGs, but Nottinghamshire police have not tried to engage. Their opportunity came when Counting the Crimes was published – they could have responded, but they chose not to.

FWGs are a potential resource for police and should be viewed as such.

All officers would benefit from a much greater understanding of the issues surrounding illegal hunting and the motivations of FWGs. We have created three helpful documents:

[Practical Advice for All Officers](#) – this includes training advice

[A Field Guide for Officers](#) – to use if they are called to a hunt

[A Study - Why sabs and monitors are not protesters.](#) – an insight FWG organisations.

### **[Hit reports and media reports mentioning Nottingham Police and hunting](#)**

[https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hunt-fox-dogs-hounds-terrier-men-legal-b1788139.html?fbclid=IwAR1Jxm\\_xkDN0DYGKj\\_d\\_OchlgM2R5ZRcJf6LIQSuUZuG\\_uk6C1kzv5zxRo](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hunt-fox-dogs-hounds-terrier-men-legal-b1788139.html?fbclid=IwAR1Jxm_xkDN0DYGKj_d_OchlgM2R5ZRcJf6LIQSuUZuG_uk6C1kzv5zxRo)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1279428875766081>

12/12/20. Video of Grove and Rutherford illegally driving out a fox gone to ground.