



WEST MERCIA PCC: DISCLOSURE LOG RESPONSE TO REQUEST

Reference: 2017 - 135
Date of response 14th June 2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Your request for information has now been considered. The information you have requested is set out below.

FOI Query

Please could you confirm whether or not yourself or your department has any input whatsoever on the specific running, day to day activities and for example any public complaints as handled by that of WM Professional standards department.

When I say input by this I mean you are able to intervene or help in making decisions within this department or should this be required. Do you have any oversight regarding possible complaints made against WM PSD and or any of its investigating officers.

Response

In response to your FOI query above, please see details below.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner does not have any input on the specific running or day to day activities of the Professional Standards Department.

Section 15 of the Police Reform Act (2002) does enable a Police and Crime Commissioner to direct a Chief Officer in relation to an individual complaint. To date, the Police and Crime Commissioner has not had cause to exercise that power.

Currently the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner in regards to complaints is limited to oversight and scrutiny of processes for resolving / investigating complaints and ensuring force appeals procedures are appropriate and being followed.

The Police and Crime Commissioner does have oversight of complaints against staff within the Professional Standards Department, in the same way that the PCC has oversight of complaints against all officers and staff. However, the PCC would not intervene in a live complaint investigation unless it was clear that the force was failing to deal with the complaint in line with statutory guidance”

Complaints

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If you think that the Police and Crime Commissioner has failed to supply information in accordance with the publication scheme, then you should write in the first instance, to the:

Chief Executive, OPCC – West Mercia, Hindlip Hall, Worcester. WR3 8SP

The PCC will aim to deal with your complaint within 10 working days. If you are dissatisfied with the response you can ask for the matter to be internally reviewed. Internal reviews will be completed promptly and a response given to you within 20 working days of your further request.

If, after the internal review, you remain dissatisfied, then you can complain to the Information Commissioner (Office of the Information Commissioner), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF).