



Our reference: 1001641

Mr James Martin

By e-mail only
request-10206-3f498fc6@whatdotheyknow.com

23 July 2009

Dear Mr Martin,

Re: Your Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your e-mails dated 06 April 2009 and 08 May 2009 in which you ask for information about obstructive police officers or police forces. I currently have a back log of work, and this has caused a delay in responding to your request for information. I would like to apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

My responses to your requests are as follows:

- 1) Deliberately obstructive police officers who fail to engage or cooperate with an investigation process undertaken by the IPCC?
- 2) Deliberately obstructive Police forces who fail to engage or cooperate with an investigation process undertaken by the IPCC?
- 3) What legally enforceable sanctions are available to the IPCC for situations identified in questions i) and ii) above?

For questions 1 to 3 above, I consider these to be legal rules, and the information is readily accessible to you by other means. Therefore, this information is exempt under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please see the Police Reform Act 2002 and the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. You can also locate the information on our IPCC website <http://www.ipcc.gov.uk/>.

- 4) Since the inception date of the IPCC how many Police Officers or Police Forces have had legal sanctions enforced by the IPCC in order for them to engage of cooperate with an IPCC investigation?

To enable me to locate this information, I would be grateful if you could please clarify what you mean by 'legal sanctions'. I cannot progress your request without further information from you. If on the basis of this letter you decide to refine your request, please contact me directly using the above contact details so we can discuss your specific requirements.

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I have carefully considered your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. If you are not satisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review by our FOI appeals officer, who has had no involvement in dealing with your request.

If you wish to appeal against this decision, please contact:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals

IPCC

90 High Holborn

London

WC1V 6BH

E mails should be clearly marked 'Appeal against FOI decision' and sent to: foi@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk.

Should you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner; however, I should point out that under section 50(2)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, you are obliged to exhaust the IPCC's own internal complaint mechanism before complaining to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V. Parker', enclosed within a hand-drawn circle.

Ms Vangie Parker

Freedom of Information Officer

Independent Police Complaints Commission