



South Yorkshire
POLICE

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DEPT

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PRIVATE

Mr D Long

request-30109-2d2af1a8@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref: C&D/RHV/JS – FOI
APPEAL 20100147

Date: 15 April 2010

Dear Mr Long

Thank you for your e-mail dated 7 April 2010 in relation to your request under the Freedom of Information Act. The Act does not provide for the process of internal review that you requested. However there is provision for an appeal panel.

The appeal panel, which consists of two senior officers and Dr Searl our Force Solicitor in the main functions as a panel to consider and adjudicate upon appeals in respect of the release or otherwise or redaction of information rather than the timeliness of fulfilling requests.

It was decided that, using the appeal process framework, Dr Searl and I would conduct an examination into the timeliness of the South Yorkshire Police in responding to your request for information.

It is accepted that the response was overdue and did exceed the 20 working days, which is acceptable for dealing with such requests.

Having examined the chronology of events it is a combination of factors which prevented your request being dealt with during that time frame.

Those factors relate to staff not being at work when requests were sent to them, in some instances requests for information are quite complex and to source that information is sometimes difficult within our organisation.

Having examined the whole circumstances myself and Dr Searl acknowledge those mistakes and will ensure such instances do not occur again.

I apologise for the delay in supplying you with the information you requested, there was no ulterior motive for this but as I state a combination of factors within the organisation, which caused the delay. However, we understand that the information requested should have been or shortly be received by you.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me on the number shown below.

Yours sincerely

Chief Superintendent R H Varey
Head of Professional Standards Department

The person dealing with this correspondence is:
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