Dear Mr Lee,

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2014.5721

On the 03/09/2014 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

1. Could you please provide me with the documents, emails and other communication recorded relating to the decision to change the Special Constabulary management/leadership structure and requiring the current leaders to reapply for leadership positions.

   In particular I request the communication relating to the decision and rationale behind this decision (including any minutes from meetings attended by the Special Constabulary Chief Officer that are relevant (sanitised as required).

2. Please also provide details with how this decision has been reviewed in line with the code of ethics.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds some relevant information.

1. Please see the attached documents from the Chief Officer Group. With regard to any other information that may be held in email form or with any specific officer, in order to locate this information would involve canvassing at least 20 people and for every email sent to be reviewed manually to see if it related to the above topic. This would involve manually reviewing thousands of emails/documents, which would take longer than the 18 hours allowed under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 17(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Gloucestershire Constabulary, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states the fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if not otherwise apparent) why the exemption applies.

In relation to your request Section 12 applies.

Section 12(1)– Fee Regulations states:
Section 1(1) of the Act does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. (As detailed in the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Fees Regulations of 2004)

The appropriate limit at the moment is £450 calculated at an hourly rate of £25 per hour for all staff time incurred in:

i. Determining whether information is held
ii. Locating it
iii. Retrieving it
iv. Extracting the information to be disclosed from the other information.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

2. No information held. That is to say that the Code of Ethics was used constantly in the decision making regarding this issue, however no specific recorded information is held.

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

If we can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Miss G Richards
Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary