Dear Sir/Madam

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

1. Could you please inform me whether the murder of Linda Cook is considered as unsolved and whether Hampshire Constabulary are actively pursuing it with regards to another person other than Michael Shirley being responsible.

If so could you please inform me when the last Cold Case Review was made and when the next one is likely.

1. Hampshire Constabulary can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information you requested as the duty in s1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply, by virtue of the following exemptions:

S30(3) Investigations and proceedings conducted by public authorities

This is a qualified exemption and therefore I am obliged to apply the public interest test to the decision to neither confirm nor deny.

2. Please note that all undetected murders are subject to cold case review on a regular basis. The case to which you refer is currently subject to this review process.

Public Interest Test

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<th>Favouring confirmation or denial</th>
<th>Against confirmation or denial</th>
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<td>Accountability in respect of public funds and investigatory focus.</td>
<td>Anything other than neither confirm nor deny would confirm whether the force believes that there are other suspects in respect of</td>
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the case you have identified. This may have the effect of either alerting the suspects if the force were to confirm it holds information or reassuring the suspects if the force were to confirm that no further information were held.

Balancing Test
Whilst confirmation or denial would improve accountability, if information were held it would also reveal the focus of investigatory activity into the public domain. Likewise, if no information were held, it would disclose into the public domain that no additional suspects had been identified as being involved, a fact that would in itself undermine the law enforcement function of the Hampshire Constabulary. Consequently, it is my decision that the balance of the public interest in this case lies in upholding the neither confirm nor deny position.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS
If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision made by Hampshire Constabulary, you can lodge a complaint with the force to have the decision reviewed within 2 months of the date of this response. Complaints should be made in writing to the Public Access office at the address at the top of this letter.

If, after lodging a complaint with Hampshire Constabulary, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, via telephone on 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745 or at the website www.ico.org.uk

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Warhurst
Public Access
Joint Information Management Unit