



**STAFFORDSHIRE  
POLICE**

**FOI ref no: 12306**

**29th July 2020**

L Anderson

Dear Mr Anderson,

**Freedom of Information request: reference 12306, first notified to us by email on 20th July 2020 (via the PFCC).**

**Thank you for your recent request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as detailed below:**

*Dear Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner,*

*In January 2020, the Express and Star newspaper printed a story with the headline*

*"Revealed: Staffordshire Police in secret requests to NHS over mental health of complainants"*

*(<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/local-hubs/staffordshire/2020/01/14/staffordshire-police-acted-inappropriately-by-asking-nhs-for-persistent-callers-mental-health-data/>)*

*The story documents what appear to be serious and potentially criminal breaches of the Data Protection Act by accessing the private NHS medical records of members of the public, via a Mental Health Coordinator (MHC) working for Staffordshire Police. It is my understanding that the emails from the MHC requesting the medical records from the NHS were sent from an email address allocated to the PCC office.*

*Please provide the following information.*

- 2. Has the PCC or his office ever employed or funded a post of MHC for Staffordshire Police.*
- 3. Has the PCC or his office ever provided an email address for use by the MHC? if so provide the dates the email was used by the MHC.*
- 4. If the answer to (2) is yes, please provide the dates any such post started and ended.*

5. *If the answer to (2) is yes, please provide a copy of the job description for the post and a copy of any notice or bulletin inviting applicants to apply*
6. *If the answer to (2) is yes, please outline clearly who was responsible for the management and oversight of the MHC.*

**Staffordshire Police's response to your enquiry is as follows:  
Staffordshire Police does hold some of the requested information.**

2. *Has the PCC or his office ever employed or funded a post of MHC for Staffordshire Police.*

**Staffordshire Police employed the Mental Health Coordinator not the PCC.**

3. *Has the PCC or his office ever provided an email address for use by the MHC? if so provide the dates the email was used by the MHC.*

**The person who was employed as a Mental Health Coordinator by Staffordshire Police was mistakenly given an email address by our IT provider Boeing, which suggested that they were employed by the Crime Commissioner's Office. This was never the case.**

4. *If the answer to (2) is yes, please provide the dates any such post started and ended.*

**Between February 2016 and April 2017.**

5. *If the answer to (2) is yes, please provide a copy of the job description for the post and a copy of any notice or bulletin inviting applicants to apply*

**No information held.**

6. *If the answer to (2) is yes, please outline clearly who was responsible for the management and oversight of the MHC.*

**No information held.**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this email and should be addressed to:

[foi@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)

Or by Post to:

Central Disclosure Unit  
Staffordshire Police HQ  
PO Box 3167  
Stafford  
ST16 9JZ

Please remember to quote the reference number in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information  
Central Disclosure Unit