

c/o PO BOX 481
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

Email: npcc.foi.request@cru.pnn.police.uk

14/05/2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 000092/20

Thank you for your request for information regarding Chief Constables' Council papers which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

From the Agenda for January 2020 Chief Constables' Council please can I request the following papers:

Serious Organised Crime Review

NPCC Criminal Justice Coordination Committee Update

NPCC Response:

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the NPCC, when refusing to provide information by way of exemption in question and (c) states why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a refusal notice to those aspects of your request.

Section 23 Information supplied by, or concerning, certain security bodies – the legislation:

(1) Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it was directly or indirectly supplied to the public authority by, or relates to any of the bodies specified in subsection (3)

This is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to consider the public interest test.

Section 31 Law Enforcement – the legislation:

(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to prejudice –

- (a) The prevention or detection of crime
- (b) The apprehension or prosecution of offenders

The NPCC will not disclose information which may hinder the effective management of law enforcement or place staff or officers at risk. There is a public interest in the transparency of



policing decision making and in this case providing assurance that the police service is appropriately and effectively managing this area of policing.

The prevention and detection of crime is the foundation upon which policing is built and the police service have a clear responsibility to prevent crime and arrest those responsible for committing crime or those that plan to commit crime. Disclosure of information captured by this request could directly influence the stages of that process, and jeopardise current investigations or prejudice law enforcement.

The lack of the enhancement to the public debate that the redacted points produce, coupled with the risks leave me in no doubt that the balance, at this time lies in non-disclosure.

Some of the information captured hasn't yet been seen by Ministers. The release of this information whilst deliberation is taking place and before Ministerial approval may inhibit debate. This would prejudice, or be likely to otherwise prejudice, the effective conduct of public affairs as the release of the information may encourage stakeholders to be less engaging and prevent proper decision making taking place.

There is no overriding public interest that would warrant disclosure

Yours sincerely

Sherry Traquair
Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

www.npcc.police.uk

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 20 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.