## MPSH

### **Hampshire Constabulary**

Chief Constable Andy Marsh

Mottisfont Court Tower Street Winchester Hampshire SO23 8ZD

Telephone: 101

Direct dial: 02380 479580

Our ref: HC/000006/16

Your ref:

29 February 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I apologise for the delay in providing a response to you.

To clarify the point of law you raised in your email of 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016, I can confirm that a public authority is able to extend an FOI request in the event that it is considering the application of the public interest test. Obviously, as only qualified exemptions are subject to the PIT, the ability to extend is limited to those exemptions that are qualified.

The actual section of FOI legislation relevant to this is s10(3) and further details may be located in paragraphs 60 - 61 of the ICO's guidance at the link below: <a href="https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1165/time-for-compliance-foia-guidance.pdf">https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1165/time-for-compliance-foia-guidance.pdf</a>

The Serious Crime Act 2015 received Royal Assent on 3 March 2015 and coercive control became a criminal offence as of 29 December 2015.

This request is being made to all 43 police forces to ascertain the progress in raising awareness of the new law and any relevant training.

Please provide the following information:-

a) Has any formal training been provided by the force and if so when did this commence?

a) Formal training specific to the Controlling and Coercive Behaviour offence was provided by the College of Policing and commenced with the





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publication of the Home Office Statutory guidance in early December 2015. There has been ongoing Domestic Abuse training throughout the year by many forces to improve understanding on the dynamics of domestic abuse.

Training has also recently been delivered to our call-handlers around the wider issues of Coercive Control to ensure they are alert to signs of Coercive Control at the earliest possible opportunity in our response. This has been incorporated into initial training packages for regular officers, specials and PCSO's since May 2015.

Additional domestic abuse training has been undertaken between September 2013 – January 2914.

- b) Was the training package prepared internally, or in partnership with an outside organisation?
- b) A package was developed externally by the College of Policing who developed it in partnership with a number of voluntary and charitable organisations.

Local packages were developed in force.

- c) Who is receiving the training e.g. all officers and police staff or specialist units dealing with domestic abuse.
- c) The training is designed for all officers and staff who deal with domestic abuse incidents, including first responders and domestic abuse specialists.

Local training packages integrated into during initial training are delivered to regular officers, specials and PCSO's.

Domestic abuse training was delivered to 1805 officers.

- d) What form does the training take e.g. classroom training/computer based training
- d) Classroom and presentations

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- e) Please provide a copy of the training material.
- e) Please see enclosed.
- f) If a training package prepared by the College of Policing is being utilised, on what date did the force receive the training package.
- f) 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015

#### 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