

Information Requests

PP B3E 2
County Hall
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4DY

Please ask for: Rebecca Martin
FOI Reference: 3885065
Email: @
Date: 2 August 2018

Mr Andy Burkitt

Dear Mr Burkitt

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Somerset County Council.

Your Request:

Are members of the Panel who are facing a Crown Court hearing still allowed to be a representative on the Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Panel?

Our Response:

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel operates within a governance framework referred to as the Panel Arrangements. In accordance with these arrangements, elected Panel Members are appointed and removed from the Panel by their respective local authority. They are subject to the member's code of conduct for that authority and any local sanctioning powers.

Independent Panel Members can be removed by the Panel in the circumstances outlined below. They are subject to the Nolan Principles and the provisions of the member code of conduct of the Host Authority which is Somerset County Council.

The relevant paragraphs state:-

Resignation and removal of Panel Members

Elected Members

3.10 An Authority may decide in accordance with its procedures to remove its Member from the Panel at any time and upon doing so shall give written notice to the Clerk.

Independent Members

3.20 The Panel may at any time terminate the appointment of an Independent Member by notice in writing with immediate effect if at least two-thirds of Panel Members vote in favour of the decision for the reasons set out below:-

- if absent from the Panel for more than 3 formal meetings without the consent of the Panel
- if convicted of a criminal offence but not automatically disqualified
- if deemed to be incapacitated by physical or mental illness or is otherwise unable to unfit to discharge the functions of an Independent Member
- if the appointment no longer achieves the Balanced Appointment Objective
- if following an investigation by the Monitoring Officer of the host authority, a member has been found to have acted contrary to the Nolan Principles or any of the provisions of the members code of conduct of the host authority.

Please quote the reference number 3885065 in any future communications.

If you feel your request has not been answered in sufficient detail, or if you wish to clarify the information given, please contact me, and I will be happy to address the issues you raise.

Alternatively, if you are not satisfied with our response you may request an internal review. This is an independent investigation into the handling of your request, which is carried out by the Information Governance Team. The conclusions of this investigation, and if applicable, a fresh decision about the information to be provided, should be sent to you within twenty working days of receipt of the internal review request.

To request an Internal Review please respond to the email that this response was attached to detailing why you are not satisfied, and your request will be dealt with by the information governance team.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may then appeal directly to the Information Commissioner's Office with your complaint.

The Information commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Web address: www.ico.gov.uk

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. I. Martin".

Rebecca Martin
Service Manager - Customer Access & Experience