



Your Ref:

Date: 31 May 2018



Civil Disclosure
Joint Corporate Legal Services

Gwen Swinburn [request-446851-848abf95@whatdotheyknow.com]

Dear Ms Swinburn

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: IR893.2017-18

I write in connection with your request for an internal review which was received by the Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) on 18 December 2017 as follows:

You seem to have overlooked the paper presented to the interviewers to assist them Conduct the interviews. This is not the faq or the cards you supplied but the introductory explainer ( which had to be more than as you say 'local stakeholders made clear things cannot hi on as they are'

I am writing to request an internal review of North Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner's handling of my FOI request 'Survey for takeover of Fire Service

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address: https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/survey for take over of fire ser

### **Decision**

According to APP guidance, 'the internal review stage is an opportunity to consider a request completely afresh. It should be an independent review of the original decision.'

I have reviewed your original request (see below), and the comments you've raised above, and have decided to uphold the original decision that all the information held in relation to your request was provided.

## Original request

- 1. At the PCP meeting your staff said that the survey companies developed surveys, and also designed background materials. Please link to these, including the briefing/background documents for the survey staff. Please link to the survey instruments, and each briefing note for the researchers.
- 2. At the same meeting you refused to respond to my, and others, requests, on how much staff time was spent in your lobbying effort to take over the fire brigade.

There was no separate paper presented to the interviewers by the OPCC. Researchers were asked to familiarise themselves with the business case and to look through the FAQ. There was a phone conference briefing, where a verbal overview of the business case was given and any questions were answered, but there is no recorded information held relating to that briefing.





If you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

# **Complaint Rights**

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet which details your right of complaint.

If you have any queries concerning this request, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Williams Legal Officer (Civil Disclosure) Joint Corporate Legal Services

#### **COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require the North Yorkshire Police to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again -

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

### **Complaint**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of the North Yorkshire Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with the North Yorkshire Police to have the decision reviewed. North Yorkshire Police must be notified of your intention to complain within 2 months of the date of its response to your Freedom of Information request. Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Force Solicitor and Head of Legal Services North Yorkshire Police Alverton Court Crosby Road Northallerton North Yorkshire DL6 1BF

In all possible circumstances the North Yorkshire Police will aim to respond to your complaint as soon as practicable but within 20 working days.

### **The Information Commissioner**

After lodging a complaint with North Yorkshire Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at https://ico.org.uk Alternatively, phone: 0303 123 1113 or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF