

Our Ref: oPCC FOI 1127

Date: 18 October 2016

Dear

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 1127

REQUEST

Would you please provide me with following information under the FOI Act 2000:

1. What is the final cost of the legal representation for the Chief Constable and all other officers and the PCC following the conclusion of the Hillsborough Inquests?
2. Which law firms represented the SYPCC and the CC at the inquests?
3. How many meetings were held between the SYPCC and the lawyers representing the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire & other officers at the inquests
4. Please specify the dates and times, venues for those meetings and which personnel attended from the SYPCC (including the SYPCC himself)
5. Was the SYPCC regularly briefed as to the progress of the inquests directly by lawyers paid by his office and if so please detail any such meetings as above.
6. Was the SYPCC aware of the specific legal arguments being used by lawyers representing the CC and his staff at the Hillsborough Inquests
7. Did the SYPCC or any member of his staff meet with those lawyers and if so please detail which staff member met lawyers; dates, times and venues please specify.

RESPONSE

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner does hold some information relating to your request. However, some of the data you seek is already publicly available and as such, the OPCC will not be supplying the information in full.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the OPCC, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you, the applicant, with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies).

The exemption applicable to your request falls under section 21. This states 'information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant'. Please see below.

Some of the information you require can be found on the Commissioner's website. The final cost of legal representation for the Chief Constable and all other officers (with designated 'properly interested persons' status) has yet to be finalised. However, the information up to and including 31 March 2016 can be found



using the following link: <http://www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/Transparency/Spending/SpendingOverFiveHundredPounds.aspx>

In addition to this, using the link provided below, you will find information relating to:

- Q5- Please see B (8).
- Q6 - Please see B (9) and (10).
- Q7- Please see B (10).

<http://www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/Document-Library/Publications/Stage-1.pdf>

With regard to questions 1 to 4 of your request, the information you seek has been outlined below:

1. (b) **Final cost of the legal representation for the PCC** – No information held. The PCC was not an 'interested person' in the Hillsborough Inquests and as such, did not require any legal representation.
2. (a) **Which law firms represented the PCC at the inquests** – No information held.
(b) **Which law firms represented the CC at the inquests** – No information held. You would need to approach South Yorkshire Police for this information.
3. No information held.
4. No information held.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request an internal review by emailing this office.

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire, SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 08456 306060 or 01625 545745
Website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

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