



## **Publication Strategy**

### **Sir Cliff Richard OBE v (1) The British Broadcasting Company and (2) The Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police**

The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has produced the below Publication Strategy in anticipation of a significant number of requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The strategy aims to provide a transparent approach to FOI, detailing what exists and what can and cannot be released. Producing such a strategy will assist us and the public in ensuring timely and transparent responses to all requests.

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Publication Strategy will enable us to, when appropriate, use the powers within FOI legislation found at section 22.

Section 22 exempts information from disclosure which is intended for future publication. The key to it is that the decision to publish must have been made prior to any request for the information being received.

The identified benefits of engaging this exemption are that dealing with requests for certain data whilst a case is ongoing can be complex and resource intensive. Also, if random piecemeal disclosures are made, this may in fact damage the case.

There will also be an appetite from the media to gain exclusive knowledge and data via FOI. If this were to happen it could undermine the media strategy and potentially disrupt the case.

Category	Types of Information	Publication Strategy
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Press/media releases</li> </ul>	Such communications will be released on an ongoing basis – standard media strategies and considerations apply.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal and External Communications</li> </ul>	Information will not be released while the case is ongoing.
Decision Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision Records</li> <li>• Briefings / Reports (with supporting documentation) to PCC</li> </ul>	When proceedings are fully complete, consideration will be given to releasing information listed subject to any relevant exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
Finance	COSTINGS including but not limited to;	The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner recognises the understandable public interest regarding how much in terms of public funds will be expended throughout this process.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subsistence costs, budget and overspend/underspend</li> </ul>	Many actual costs will not be known until some time after proceedings are complete and accounting has been finalised.
Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If criteria under the Police Reform Act 2002 are met, provide the outcomes.</li> <li>• Number of complaints</li> </ul>	The PCC is committed to being open and transparent in a timely manner, whilst balancing the rights of individuals concerned. Experience has shown however, that the PCC will likely receive complaints during such proceedings. The information is intended for future publication once any such claims have been investigated.