

Our Ref: OPCC FOI 1305

26 August 2020

Dear

Freedom of Information Request - Reference No: 1305

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received on 5 February 2020.

I shall set out below the questions you have raised and our response to them.

REQUEST

I am seeking to ascertain the date The Commissioner became aware of The Forestry Commission's investigation into the legality of the street tree felling programme in Sheffield pursuant to the Streetsahead contract with Sheffield City Council.

Please provide all information held associated with this and include any subsequent discussions related to the Forestry Commission's investigation.

RESPONSE

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides two distinct but related rights of access to information, which impose corresponding duties on public authorities. These are:

- Section 1(1)(a) the duty to inform the applicant whether or not information is held by the authority, and, if so,
- Section 1(1)(b) the duty to communicate that information to the applicant.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) does hold information in relation to your request.

Explanation of exemptions

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (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).



Information relating to your request is available on the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) website. Therefore, Section 21 – 'Information reasonably accessible by other means' is engaged (see link below).

<https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/08/FOI-1237-Policing-Sheffield-Trees-Protest-Report-Partial-Response-no-names.pdf>

For clarification, the link is to a partial response to an FOI request asking for "details of any record held by PCC regarding SYP, Amey of Sheffield City Council and their knowledge of the Forestry Commission investigation". This is the only information the OPCC holds in relation to the Forestry Commission investigation.

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

Sally Parkin

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