

Date: 15/10/2020

Our Reference: FOIA-2020-117

Your Reference: N/A

(Via email: [REDACTED])

Dear [REDACTED],

RE: Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act 2000 (or 'FoIA 2000') request dated 26/09/2020 in which you requested the total number of officers registered as accredited in England and Wales as Specialist Child Abuse Investigators Development Programme (SCAIDP).

When a request for information is made under FoIA 2000, a public authority has a general duty under section 1(1) of the Act to inform an applicant whether the requested information is held. There is then a general obligation to communicate that information to the applicant. If a public authority decides that the information should not be disclosed because an exemption applies, it must, under section 17(1) cite the appropriate section or exemption of the Act and provide an explanation for relying upon it.

It is important to note that a freedom of information request is not a private transaction. Both the request itself and any information disclosed are considered suitable for open publication, that is, once access to information is granted to one person under the legislation, it is then considered public information and must be communicated to any individual should a request be received. In light of this, our responses and disclosures are published on our external website at a later date. This should be borne in mind where a request is made for personal data of named individuals.

Decision

After conducting careful searches for any information relevant to your request I can confirm that there is information held. For context, the College maintains a register of officers who have completed the College SCAIDP. Please note, we rely on Force single points of contact (SPOCs) to send us specific details of officers completing the course which is licensed to forces for local delivery. These details include those who will be entered on the register as 'under assessment, whilst they complete their professional portfolio, once evidence of internal verification on completion of the professional portfolio (within 12 months) is received they will be fully registered and we require notification of annual CPD relevant to child abuse and protection investigation to remain registered. Officers will be shown as 'lapsed' on the register if we do not receive evidence of CPD within 2 years.

Current details on the register are as follows:

- 3905 total registrations
- 189 under assessment
- 1129 fully registered
- 707 have outstanding CPD notification (less than 2 years)

The remaining number have lapsed CPD which could be for a number of reasons such as retirement, moving out of the field of specialism, failing to submit evidence of CPD etc.

I trust this letter answers your questions. Your rights are provided in **Appendix A**.

Yours sincerely,

Melda Squires | Legal Advisor
Information Management and Legal Team
College of Policing

Email: FOI@college.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.college.police.uk

Appendix A

Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of the College of Policing made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can request that the decision is reviewed internally.

Internal review requests should be made in writing, within **forty (40) working days** from the date of the refusal notice, and addressed to: FOI team, Central House, Beckwith Knowle, Otley Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 1UF or email: FOI@college.pnn.police.uk

In all possible circumstances the College of Policing will aim to respond to your request for internal review within **20 working days**.

The Information Commissioner

If, after lodging an internal review request with the College of Policing 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/for-the-public/official-information/>.

Alternatively, write to:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113