

Date: 10/12/2021

Our Reference: FOIA-2021-142

RE: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('FoIA 2000') request, dated 30/11/2021, in which you requested:

1. If an individual orally states that they are exempt from wearing a face covering and in doing so does not wish to, or decides not to disclose any (data protected) medical information relating to said exemption -to a police constable, what will/ought be the lawful response from an police officer be?
2. Following a previous court decision that determined that fines issued under the 'coronavirus act' are unlawful (and many pending fines being rescinded) I am not aware of any change in the law (not statute, act or legislation) which now enables lawful prosecution of any individual who "chooses" not to wear a face covering in enclosed public spaces and in doing so commits no unlawful crime.
3. If you believe there has been a change in the written law of the UK (not that of being government mandate or harsh coercive diktat) please advise of such.

Decision

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.

In line with section 1(1) of the FoIA, I can confirm the College **does not hold information** relevant to your request. However, the policing response is outlined on Page 8 of the link you shared with us. In regards to part 1 of your request I would suggest that you may wish to contact your local force.

Your rights can be found at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

James Rose | Legal Advisor
Information Management and Legal Team
College of Policing
Email: FOI@college.pnn.police.uk
Website: www.college.police.uk

Your right of review

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have a right to request an internal review if you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request. Review requests should be made in writing (by email or post) within 40 working days from the date of our original response. We will aim to respond to your review request within 20 working days.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If, after lodging a review request you are still dissatisfied, you may raise the matter with the ICO. For further information you can visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information/>. Alternatively, you can contact them by phone or write to them at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113