

Date: 26th October 2022
Our Reference: FIOA-2022-102

RE: Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“FOIA 2000”)

I write in response to your Freedom of Information Act 2000 request dated 16th October 2022, and further clarification email dated 18th October in which you requested the following information:

Section 38 of the Police reform Act 2002 speaks of designated powers to civilian staff. A requirement of this section is “Adequate Training”. This requirement is not specified within the act.

Freedom of Information request placed on a number of constabularies have not revealed any information pertinent to “Adequate Training”.

Therefore, under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide all guidance on the implementation of section 30 of the Police Reform Act 2002, including Codes of Practice and Indemnification requirements and liabilities.

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.

Having considered your request and conducted reasonable searches for information, I am now issuing my decision to you. I can confirm that the College holds the information that is relevant to your request and where that information is available, it is to be provided to you.

We describe the requirements in our PIP policy attached, at page 39 onward, which I have précised below.

‘Importantly the powers can only be conferred by a chief constable, and therefore each chief constable must satisfy themselves that the police staff member to whom the powers are being conferred has received ‘adequate training’. There is no national definition of ‘adequate training’ as powers are designated locally and may vary from role to role and force to force.

Under paragraph 16 and paragraph 24A of Part 2 of Schedule 4 to the 2002 Act, as amended by section 122 and Schedule 7 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005, a chief constable is allowed to designate relevant police powers to a police staff investigator.

These powers apply to any investigator, eg, support officer, PIP 1 volume and priority investigator and PIP 2 serious and complex investigator designated before 15 December 2017. The 2002 Act also lists the specific powers that can be conferred by a chief officer on their police staff in these roles. These powers and duties are specified in the legislation and are broken down by each individual role.

A police staff investigator joining the police service today is expected to do so as either a PIP 1 or PIP 2 investigator or as an investigative support officer. Therefore, their learning and development should reflect that given to warranted officers in those roles.

If joining in a PIP 1 role, police staff will be required to complete the learning outcomes for the PIP1 programme. This should include knowledge-based classroom learning and a practical work-based assessment, including completing PIP1. Police staff investigators will be required to adhere to the same registration requirements as sworn officers:

Those joining in a PIP 2 role must complete the National investigators exam and PIP 2 training and development. On completion, forces may wish to consider further specialist electives relevant to deployment, eg, specialist child abuse training (SCAIDP).

The College of Policing cannot mandate PIP as a development programme for police staff investigators. It is a decision for individual forces and agencies whether they wish to develop police staff in this way. Chief Constable's may also decide that additional training is required in law and procedure to meet their obligations under the Act in order to designate relevant powers'

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

Yours sincerely,

S Kaur
Legal and Compliance Team
Business Services
College of Policing

Email: FOI@college.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 our original response, and addressed to: FOI team, Central House, Beckwith Knowle, Otley Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 1UF or email [**FOI@college.police.uk**](mailto:FOI@college.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's Office (ICO)

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, you can contact them by telephone or write to them at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113