

14 May 2014

I write following your FOI request dated 11.3.14 in which you request information regarding pension contributions and any other payments to a listed number of past employees. I responded to you on 28.3.14, to which you then requested a review on 29.3.14.

Your review was conducted by Ms Lindsey Hall, Solicitor and sent to you on 16.4.14. In the review Ms Hall concluded that my original response to you was correct. However you also subsequently supplied a clarification, which stated;

*"the final settlement pension payments made as a result of the termination of their employment. Also any other payments found to be appropriate which were made to the people named in my previous email."*

Ms Hall has already informed you that the second part of this clarification is so unclear and generalised that this aspect would again exceed the time limits set by the FOIA and as such will not be responded to.

This request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Regarding your request I can now inform you that I have completed my enquiries and that my reply on behalf of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland is as follows.

I can confirm that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland does hold this information.

I am now in a position to respond to the first part of your subsequent clarification. In this respect I am responding to the information held by the office of the PCC with regard to Sean Price.

You state you require the following;

*"the information requested is the final settlement pension payments made as a result in the termination of their employment"*

You use the phrase 'termination of employment'. Before I inform you of the amount Mr Price received I need to clarify the position of police officers taking receipt of their pension contributions.

All police officers pensions are final salary based. Police officers pension contributions and entitlements are governed on a national basis by police pension legislation. An officer's pension is accrued over the period of their service with contributions made by the officer and in the case of Mr Price or any other officer the Police Authority who engaged them.

The Regulations cover all aspects of an officers service including, normal retirement after the completion of 30 years service, medical retirement,

resignation with less than the minimum service to bring the pension into payment or a death in service. This is not an exhaustive list.

There are provisions within the Regulations for a police pension to be forfeited but this requires a conviction of a criminal offence in connection with an officer's service.

Police officers are also entitled to opt to take a lump sum in return for a reduced pension at the time the pension comes into payment. This sum is dependent on the age of the officer as it is actuarial based.

With regard to Mr Price and his service as a police officer, this was terminated in October 2012 by a Police Misconduct Panel after he was found guilty of gross misconduct.

In Mr Price's situation the pension contributions accrued his final pensionable salary and his age, entitled him to commute part of his pension, to a lump sum of £366,081.52. I trust this answers your query.

I can confirm that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland has a complaints procedure. If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to: Chief of Staff, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Police Headquarters, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough, TS8 9EH or you can follow the complaints procedure found on our website at: [www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk](http://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk)

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 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45 Website: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

There is no charge for making an appeal.

John Bage  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland