

19th August 2015

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Your Request for Information dated 16 July 2015

I refer to your email dated 16 July 2015 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act as follows:

'I would like copies of all written correspondence between Police and Crime Commissioner Barry Coppinger and former chief constable Sean Price between July 2013 and February 2014, including emails and letters.'

Following a search of our records, I can confirm that the following information is held by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and is released to you in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

- Undated letter from Sean Price to Barry Coppinger, postmarked 2nd November 2013.
- Letter from Sean Price to Barry Coppinger dated 27th December 2013.

In accordance with obligations under Section 16 of the Act and to place the above correspondence in context, it may assist you to know that upon receipt of this correspondence at his home address, the PCC handed the letters to his instructed solicitor, who in turn wrote to Mr Price's legal representatives on two occasions requesting that he refrain from contacting the PCC personally in circumstances where both parties had instructed solicitors.

Notwithstanding that request, eventually both Mr Price's correspondence, together with correspondence between instructed solicitors was produced to the Court by way of a complaint at a hearing which took place on the 16th January 2014.

Mr Price did not attend that hearing, however the Judge advised his legal representatives that Mr Price must desist from writing personally to the PCC and that any future correspondence must be strictly between instructed solicitors.

In the event that you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request for information, may I remind you of your right to request that the OPCC conducts an internal review.

You may also appeal my decision to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Telephone: 084456 30 60 60 or 01625 54 57 45 Website: www.ico.gov.uk