

Fol ref: 2014 - 00316

Request received: 8 March 2014

Response sent: 1 April 2014

Thank you for your message to my website regarding the report to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board on assistance with legal costs.

I aim to be as transparent as possible and to this end as much information as possible is placed in the public domain and on my website. However, I do also have a duty to protect the right of individuals to privacy and to ensure that personal information is not disclosed inappropriately.

I am sorry that I cannot provide any further information regarding the circumstances of this particular claim, but I can confirm that it was a request for legal assistance made in accordance with Home Office Circular 43/2001.

Police and Crime Commissioners have a duty to consider requests submitted by police officers for assistance with their legal costs. This duty is governed by Home Office circular number 43/2001 which provides that assistance with legal costs should be provided in cases where police officers have acted in good faith and have exercised their judgement reasonably. It is a matter for a Police and Crime Commissioner to decide whether to assist with legal costs but there is a strong presumption that they will do so when officers have acted in good faith and have exercised their judgement reasonably.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R M Jones', written in a cursive style.

Bob Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner