

Freedom of Information Act – Request for information

I have been made aware by West Midlands Police FOI Unit that you submitted a request for information using FOI 2000 legislation to them. Further, I understand that you have given your permission for them to pass on part of your FOI to this office as the information sought would be found here rather than with West Midlands Police.

I am therefore responding to the following questions:

- “1. How much has the Police and Crime Commissioners Office spent on catering for meetings since it came into existence? Please could this be broken down into internal meetings where only PCC or West Midlands Police staff are present and when members of external agencies and the public are present.**
- “2. Is it true that members of staff on the Police and Crime Commissioners Office are given individually gift wrapped gifts at Christmas time? If so, how much did these gifts cost per gift, what were the gifts and how many staff received them? Were they taxed in kind on these benefits? Who paid for them?”**

In response in question 1, I can provide the following information:

Period covered: Nov 2012 – March 2018

Total catering costs : £19,740

I am not able to break this down into external and internal meetings for the whole of that period as the information was not formerly recorded in that manner. However, I am able to provide you with those costs for financial year 2017-2018; see below:

Period covered: April 2017 – March 2018

External events/meetings

(where members of external agencies and/or the public were present): £4,334

Internal events/meetings

(where only PCC and/or WMP officers/staff were present): £ 687

Total catering costs: £5, 021

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In response to question 2, I can confirm that members of staff in the OPCC are not given individually wrapped gifts at Christmas time.

This provides a full response to your FOI request, however your attention is drawn to the fact that, in accordance with the Police and Crime Commissioner’s review procedure, you do have a right to request an internal review. Details of the procedure are attached to this letter. Any appeal should be submitted within 6 months of the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Jardine
Chief Executive

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