

**Please ask for :** Alethea Fuller  
**Telephone Number:** 0121 626 6060  
wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk



**west midlands**  
**police and crime**  
**commissioner**

26 February 2020

Dear FOI Applicant,

Thank you for your freedom of information request received in this office on 20 February 2020 in which you asked:

1. *Bearing in mind the increase in firearms licensing fees following the Home Office consultation and review, circa 2017, which was designed to ensure the service was fully funded from the fees, why do there appear to be so many cuts?*
2. *Does the PCC decide on the funding for this service and if so is he aware of the strain the Firearms Licensing staff are under due to serious staff reductions?*
3. *Under a Freedom of Information request could you please provide the figures for firearms licensing fees paid by applicants to West Midlands Firearms Licensing Department compared to the costs of providing the service, for the last financial year, numbers of staff providing the service and how many staff have been cut over the past 5 years?*

In response to your request, I can advise you that the funding for this service is set nationally and not by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). The OPCC does not hold any further information in order to answer the questions in your request; however believe that West Midlands Police may be able to respond to your request. You can submit a freedom of information request to the police using the following contact details:

**Freedom of Information Unit**

West Midlands Police  
PO Box 52, Lloyd House  
Colmore Circus Queensway  
Birmingham  
B4 6NQ  
E-mail: [foi@west-midlands.police.uk](mailto:foi@west-midlands.police.uk)

**Freedom of Information Right of Appeal**

Any person who has requested information from West Midlands Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and is unhappy with the way their request for information has been handled can request a review of their case.

A request for review must be made in writing by letter or email to the Legal Advisor to the Police and Crime Commissioner. You should include the reference number of your request if you have it, and outline why you are requesting the review to:

The Legal Advisor  
West Midlands Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
Lloyd House  
Birmingham  
B4 6NQ  
Telephone: 0121 626 6060

All requests for review will be recorded. Receipt of a request for internal review will be acknowledged and the appellant informed of an estimated date for determining the outcome. West Midlands Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner will attempt to respond to internal reviews as soon as practicable and in any case within two months.

All investigations will be undertaken by the Legal Advisor.

The result of any internal review will be communicated to the appellant outlining the decisions taken. 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 a request for internal review or appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Alethea Fuller  
Acting Chief Executive