

Please ask for : Alethea Fuller
Telephone Number: 0121 626 6060
Our Reference: 2024-00188
wmpcc@westmidlands.police.uk



west midlands
police and crime
commissioner

Sent by email to: request-1087005-ade3aa91@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 22/03/2024

Dear Mr Andrews,

Thank you for your freedom of information request received in this office on **15 February 2024** in which you asked:

'Please provide a breakdown of resources allocated in the Police and Crime Commissioner's office towards the campaign to prevent the merger of of the PCC powers with the Mayor of the West Midlands. If possible, please include:

- Staff working hours dedicated to campaign
- Approximate cost of those working hours in salary payments
- Marketing budget used promoting campaign, arranging press appearances, any online or social media advertising or hosting fees

Please also provide any written communication between the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and the office of the Chief Constable of West Midlands Police that has any relation to the proposed merger of the two roles.'

In response to your request, I can confirm the following:

- Staff working hours dedicated to campaign - **we have not undertaken this breakdown of resources, and therefore we do not have this information to provide for you.**
- Approximate cost of those working hours in salary payments - **as above, this analysis has not been undertaken and therefore we do not have this information to provide to you.**
- Marketing budget used promoting campaign, arranging press appearances, any online or social media advertising or hosting fees - **there is not a bespoke marketing budget for these purposes. However as a gesture of good will, I can confirm that an estimated 600 letters have been sent, with an estimated cost of 78 pence per letter. I can also confirm that there has been no cost for boosting social posts relating to the merger.**

In response to the written communication between the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and the Office of the Chief Constable of West Midlands Police, I can confirm that we hold the attached document, titled 'FOI_14 - Funds and correspondence related to campaign against PCC/Mayoral merger – Attachment 1'.

You will note that the document includes redacted text. I can confirm that the redacted information is exempt in line with section 40(2). This exemption covers the personal data of third parties,

where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the UK General Data Protection Regulation. In line with Section 42(1), we have also made the decision to remove some attachments from the emails in the document, as they include legally privileged information. This is due to the claim for legal professional privilege.

Freedom of Information Right of Appeal

Any person who has requested information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) 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. You should include the reference number of your request if you have it, and outline why you are requesting the review to:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Lloyd House
Birmingham
B4 6NQ

Telephone: 0121 626 6060
Email: wmpcc@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

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. The OPCC will attempt to respond to internal reviews as soon as practicable and in any case within two months.

All investigations will be undertaken by someone not involved in the original response.

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

There is no charge for making a request for internal review or appeal to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Alethea Fuller

Deputy Chief Executive