

Please ask for : Alethea Fuller
Telephone Number: 0121 626 6060
Our Reference: 2024-00267
wmpcc@westmidlands.police.uk



Dear FOI Applicant,

Thank you for your freedom of information request received in this office on **13 March** 2024 in which you asked:

‘As of March 13, 2024, what are the total legal costs of the legal challenge made by the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner in order to oppose the plans to merge the PCC role with that of the regional mayor. For the avoidance of doubt, this includes in pre-hearing legal advice, as well as costs directly related to the hearing on March 12, 2024 – such as fees for the application and representation in court.

Please indicate what proportion of these total costs will be taken from the budget for the West Midlands PCC and whether any of the funding has come from other sources – such as directly from the PCC’s personal finances or other private sponsors.’

In response to your request, I can confirm that the Commissioner's decision to apply for a judicial review was on 15 February 2024. Since then, the OPCC has not received any invoices relating to the application for a judicial review. Therefore, we do not have this information to provide for you.

Staff costs and staff hours associated with the application for judicial review are not recorded, and therefore we do not have this information to provide for you. The only direct costs are the travel costs associated with attending the Judicial Review hearing. The total spent on travel for the Judicial Review was: £616.

I can confirm that the Commissioner has retained the services of Kingsley Napley LLP.

Furthermore, I can confirm that all legal costs are met from within the budget for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Fuller', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Alethea Fuller
Deputy Chief Executive