

PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

BACKGROUND

All Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) are required to publish specified information which is set out by the Specified Information Order. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 says what information Commissioners should make available.

This includes:

- Details about the PCC and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) e.g. Name, contact details, salary, allowances, expenses, register of interests and the number of complaints against the PCC.
- Financial Information
- Information about properties, assets, and liabilities.
- Decisions and policies.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, PCCs are required to publish an information scheme, setting out what information is available for the public to access and where this is. This will also include responding to freedom of information (FOI) queries from individuals.

TRANSPARENCY

The Specified Information Order should be used by PCC's to enhance transparency, by allowing the local community to look at key information relating to the OPCC.

The information available on PCCs websites has been most used by the media and various arms of government, including the Home Office, Home Affairs Select Committee and the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL), to check that PCCs are publishing information correctly. They have paid particular attention to PCC salaries, allowances and expenses, codes of conduct and registers of interests and hospitality.

SCAN ME



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to all PCCs, and contains two key requirements:

- To publish an information scheme,
- To respond to freedom of information queries from individuals (PCCs should they have the capacity to do this within their office, although some PCCs arrange for the force to provide this service).

It is important for the PCC's office to adhere to strict timescales for responding to requests and refrain from providing personal data.

DID YOU KNOW?

PCCs do not need to use 'consent' as their lawful basis for holding personal data and therefore do not need to ask for an individual's permission to hold their data, however individuals have the right to know what data is held about them, to request that it is corrected or deleted or restrict how it is used.