



## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2016-0665

**Keyword:** Operational Policing

**Subject:** Woodburn Forest

### Request and Answer:

#### Question 1

I wish to make the following EIR request under FOI legislation

<https://www.psni.police.uk/news/Latest-News/160616-policing-operation-at-woodburn-forest/>

In relation to your statement “The officers involved in the operation are continually talking and engaging with all interested parties. Keeping the lines of communication open is key to ensuring the safety of everyone involved and I would encourage those on both sides to keep those conversations going so that we can continue to move forward in a positive manner.” Can you outline from your records when PSNI talked and engaged with protesters/community at Woodburn?

#### Answer

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act I can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does hold information to which your request relates. The decision has been taken to disclose the following.

Engagement took place on a daily basis by all officers deployed at the site.

#### Question 2

In form did these talks and engagements were made?

#### Answer

Engagement took place on a daily basis by all officers deployed at the site. Engagement also took place by responding to letters and phone calls.

#### Question 3

In what form were ‘lines of communication kept open?

#### Answer

Communication was kept open by ensuring access was always available to officers and Senior Command without restriction.

#### Question 4

Was a PSNI liaison officer with the local community appointed? If so, from what dates?

**Answer**

A liaison officer was not appointed. Liaison was by way of the Senior Officer on duty and through the local Neighbourhood Inspector and his team.

**Question 5**

Can you outline from your records of when PSNI met with Infrastrata? If so when? In what form did this take and the rank of the officers involved?

**Answer**

The dates that PSNI officers met with Infrastrata is not held. Officers ranging in rank from Constable to Superintendent met with Infrastrata numerous times. These engagements took the form of face to face meetings and telephone calls.

**Question 6**

Did PSNI ever meet with Cherton on behalf Infrastrata? If so when? In what form did this take and the rank of the officers involved?

**Answer**

The PSNI have never met with Cherton on behalf of Infrastrata.

**Question 7**

Did the policing operation have a project name? If so what was it?

**Answer**

The policing operation at Woodburn Forest is named Operation Rocklin.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@psni.pnn.police.uk).

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ [www.psni.police.uk](http://www.psni.police.uk)

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.