



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: FOI-2023-01323

Keyword: Policing Themes, Operations and Investigations Investigations and Operations

Subject: Criminal records of MP Cyril Smith

Request and Answer:

Request 1

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am interested in obtaining any information that the police force holds on the late MP Cyril Smith, whose date of birth is June 28, 1928.

To assist you in locating the information I am requesting, I would like to request all records, files, audio recordings or any other information that your police force may have on Cyril Smith. Specifically, I am interested in any information about any arrests, or investigations relating to Cyril Smith.

Request 2

I would also like a copy of everything you submitted to the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse in 2017.

Clarification sought:

You have requested “a copy of everything you submitted to the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse in 2017”. It doesn’t read clearly to me whether this refers only to information submitted in regards to the named individual or does it refer to everything submitted by PSNI.

Clarification received:

I am specifically interested in any investigations that were carried out regarding MP Cyril Smith, including any reports or findings resulting from those investigations. My request extends beyond just criminal records and encompasses any information related to investigations carried out by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) in relation to Cyril Smith.

Regarding my request for a copy of everything submitted to the Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse in 2017, I am specifically seeking any information that was submitted by the PSNI in relation to Cyril Smith. If there are any specific limitations or boundaries within which this information falls, please let me know and I will adjust my request accordingly.

Answer 1-2

Your request for information has now been considered. In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the Act we can confirm that the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) does not hold information in relation to your requests. Enquiries made in relation to your request failed to locate any records or documents, both current and historical, relevant to your request based on the information you have provided.

Accordingly, we have determined that the Police Service of Northern Ireland does not hold the information to which you seek access.

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 Corporate Information Branch, 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 Corporate Information Manager, Corporate Information Branch, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.police.uk.

If, following an Internal Review carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain unhappy about how your request has been handled you have the right to apply in writing to the Information Commissioner, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, at 'Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. There are a number of other platforms you can use to contact the ICO and these can be found on the ICO's website at the following link: [Make a complaint | ICO \(https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/\)](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/).

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 their discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psn.police.uk

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