

## Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

### Decision notice

**Date:** 18 October 2024

**Public Authority:** Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

**Address:** 2nd Floor Victory House  
Balliol Business Park  
Benton Lane  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE12 8EW

#### **Request:**

The complainant requested the following information from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria on 7 August 2024:

"I request you to release (redacted if necessary) ALL emails and correspondence sent and received by OPCC Northumbria (and specifically those sent from or to Dame Vera Baird KC) from August 2016 (when the Employment Tribunal made their decision concerning [name redacted] Employment Tribunal and Chief Constable [name redacted] stated that he would begin an investigation) through until December 2020 (when [name redacted] received version 1.7 of the Operation Eustace report from Staffordshire Police).

It would be especially useful to the Tribunal proceedings if you could provide a copy of the formal approval of Dame Vera Baird KC for the Terms of Reference of Operation Eustace.

#### **Commissioner's Decision:**

A public authority will breach section 10 of FOIA if it fails to respond to a request within 20 working days. Based on evidence available to the Commissioner, by the date of this notice the public authority has not issued

a substantive response to this request. Therefore the Commissioner finds a breach of section 10.

**Steps:**

The public authority must provide a substantive response to the request in accordance with its obligations under FOIA.

The public authority must take this step within 30 calendar days of the date of this decision notice. Failure to comply may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court pursuant to section 54 of FOIA and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

**Right of Appeal:**

Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)  
GRC & GRP Tribunals,  
PO Box 9300,  
LEICESTER,  
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963

Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: [grc@justice.gov.uk](mailto:grc@justice.gov.uk)

Website: [www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber](http://www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber)

Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

**Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF**