

c/o PO BOX 481  
Fareham  
Hampshire  
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

Email: [npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk](mailto:npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk)

16/02/2023

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 50/2023**

Thank you for your request for information regarding publication schemes, which has now been considered.

**Applicant Question:**

Under the freedom of information Act I would be most grateful in you could provide me with a working link or electronic copy of the following information:

1. The current version of NPFDU minimum information document (Regarding force publication scheme).
2. The current version of [National Policing Guide to Publication Scheme Compliance](#)
3. It states in the [APP \(authorised professional practice\)](#) document that "Chief officers have statutory obligations in relation to the FOIA and will be held to account for breaches of the legislation.". Please could you provide me with all current information how a member of the public is able to hold a chief officer to account. For example would this amount to a category s, neglect of duty complaint?

**NPCC Response:**

The NPCC does hold information captured by questions 1 and 2 of your request.

I have attached the National Policing Minimum Requirements version 5 to this request. This is also the same document you have requested at question 2.

The NPCC does not hold recorded information captured by question 3 of your request.

In wishing to assist you further as per the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) [guidance](#) police forces should have procedures to handle any disputes or complaints arising from the outcome or handling of a request for information. This procedure is known as an internal review and demonstrates a commitment to openness and transparency.

Section 17(7) of FOIA explains that forces must inform requestors whether or not they have an internal review procedure in any response you issue to a request for information. This must explain how requestors can ask for an internal review, as well as informing them of their right to complain



to the Information Commissioner under section 50 of FOIA should they be unhappy following the review outcome, or if no internal review procedure is in place.

A public authority is defined under the [Freedom of Information Legislation](#), within part V of [Schedule 1](#), it confirms that a chief officer of police of a police force in England or Wales will be considered a public authority.

Additionally as described [here \(p8\)](#): A police force is under the direction and control of the chief officer for that force. This does not mean that the chief officer must give every order: the delegation of appropriate powers to suitable people (both police officers and police staff) is permitted, by which the chief officer remains ultimately responsible for actions carried out by others under his/her authority.

Therefore although the force chief officers will designate FOI officers to coordinate and manage FOI requests made to the force, within the police service, the data controller remains the chief constable of each force.

For full details on the legislation, please see Annex A below.

Yours sincerely

**Fiona Greenlees**  
NPCC Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

[www.npcc.police.uk](http://www.npcc.police.uk)

## **COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

### Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 20 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

## Annex A

### Legislation – Section 16

- (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.