



**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER  
for Leicestershire**

Your voice in Leicester,  
Leicestershire & Rutland

Our Ref: 4554/17  
Your Ref: Freedom of Information Request  
Address Correspondence to:  
Date 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I write further to your request for information received on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 in which you asked the following:

*On 28th June 2017 the Leicester Mercury published an article about the Police and Crime Commissioner Lord Willy Bach wearing a uniform. The uniform issue does not interest me but the mention of Andy Furlong who was described as "a policy advisor in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner" certainly does. The article reported that a spokesperson for the Commissioner's office said, "Andy Furlong has worked as a policy advisor, on a part time basis, to the Police and Crime Commissioner since October 2016." The previous Police and Crime Commissioner appears not have required the services of a Policy Advisor.*

*In regard to the post of "Policy Advisor", could you please tell me;*

- 1. The official job title.*
- 2. When, where and how this new post was advertised.*
- 3. The annual salary for the post.*
- 4. If the post is of a part time nature, the number of hours per week worked.*
- 5. The weekly remuneration for the actual hours worked.*

*Could you supply me with;*

- 6. A copy of the job description.*
- 7. A copy of the person specification.*
- 8. The number of candidates short-listed for the job broken down by gender and race.*
- 9. Copies of the PCC's policies to which Mr Furlong has made a contribution. If these have yet to be committed to paper, a general description of the subject areas for which Mr Furlong has made a significant contribution will suffice.*

*Can you confirm or refute that the Andy Furlong named and pictured in the article is the same Andy*

**Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire**

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*Furlong who is/was;*

*10. Since 1999 the Head of External Relations for the Institute of Chemical Engineers, a registered charity based in Rugby.*

*11. A Labour Party activist since his time as a Student Union leader at Brunel University in 1980-83.*

*12. A failed Labour Party candidate in the Parliamentary elections in 1997 and 2001.*

*13. Since 5 December 2015 the Chairman of the Labour Party's East Midland Regional Board.*

*14. A member of the Labour Party's National Policy Forum.*

*My understanding is that the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 determines that all PCC's staff posts, except the PCC and Deputy PCC, are "politically restricted posts". If that is the case, could you explain;*

*15. How Mr Furlong can be employed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.*

*16. As an employee of the Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner, how Mr Furlong could have been allowed to become actively involved in canvassing for the Labour Party during the run up to the 2017 General election.*

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and I am not obliged to supply all of the information you have requested.

However the information I can supply is as follows:

### **Andy Furlong**

The Police and Crime Commissioner can confirm that Mr Furlong is the same Mr Furlong as mentioned throughout all of your correspondence. Details of his work with the Labour Party are well documented in the public domain and as such do not require further comment or confirmation.

With regards to his role within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Furlong was appointed by the Police and Crime Commissioner as a consultant/contractor. As a result there was no recruitment process or job description undertaken as under the prevailing legislation he is not classed as an employee. The terms and conditions of this consultancy are that he shall be available for not less than 20 hours per month and the remit of his post are broadly as follows

- 1) To provide services to underpinning strategy for the evolution and communication of the Police and Crime Plan.
- 2) Creation of an annual communications plan up until 2020
- 3) Support the Police and Crime Commissioner on matters of policy, strategy and communications.



To date Mr Furlong has made a contribution to the following

- Police and Crime Plan – Development and publication
- Victims Services- Development of future delivery
- Office Structure – Advice on delivery of communications and engagement with the structure.
- Call Management Department – Assessment of future development of this area of business

Due to Mr Furlong's status as a consultant/contractor there are deemed to be no conflicts with the requirements of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The further information you have requested cannot be supplied to you as the following exemption applies to these elements of your request:

#### **Section 40 (2) – Personal Information**

Section 40(2) is a class based absolute exemption and as such legislators have identified that there would be harm in disclosure and there is no requirement to evidence this or consider the public interest test. However, as Section 40(2) is engaged and in order to make the exemption absolute we need to evidence that a data protection principle would be breached by disclosure. In this case it would not be fair to process confidential personal information which relates to an identified individual, therefore the first principle of the Data Protection Act would be breached.

You should consider this to be a refusal under section 17 of the Act for your request.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Professional Standards Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Disclosure Manager  
Leicestershire Police

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