

11th September 2018

## **Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20181552**

### **REQUEST**

*I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I request the following information, which I hope you will be able to provide.*

*1) How many times has your police force shared cctv footage with the Home Office in the last 5 years (2014,2015,2016,2017,2018 so far) for a) an immigration case b) the detention of an individual?*

*Please break this information down by year and month. Please give details of why the footage was shared and how it was used (eg to secure detention of an individual)*

*• Please also provide any emails between your police force and the Home Office about the footage that was shared and why. They can be redacted to protect the identities of anyone involved in this case.*

### **RESPONSE**

**Section 17** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a. states that fact,
- b. specifies the exemption in question and
- c. states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

#### **Section 12(2) – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit**

I approached our Specialist Crime Services and to assist with your request. They explained:

*“to try and obtain this information will exceed the 18 hr rule. There is no central repository for this information to be searched. It would require checking every file to ascertain if the file related to any immigration matters and if any items such as CCTV was submitted to the Home Office”.*

And a Detective Chief Inspector within the force also said:

*“am not aware of any systems which may contain this information”*

As such, this request would require a manual search of every investigation file to determine (a) if the investigation had CCTV footage as evidence (b) if the investigation related to an immigration case and (c) whether the individual was detained.

Therefore to retrieve and extract the pertinent information in relation to your request would significantly exceed the appropriate limit.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 provide that the cost limit for non central government public authorities is £450. This must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour, providing an effective time limit of 18 hours.

**Guidance from the Information Commissioner to public authorities is that where one part of a request is reasonably estimated to exceed the appropriate limit then the authority is not obliged to consider or comply with the remainder of the request up to the point at which the appropriate limit has been reached. Please note point 30 of the below link:-**

[https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs\\_of\\_compliance\\_exceeds\\_appropriate\\_limit.pdf](https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf)