

Reply to: Leah Smith

Tel No: 01953 424455

30th October 2019

Dear Member of Public,

Freedom of Information Request FOI/OPCCN/177

I am writing in connection with your email dated 22nd October 2019, in which you requested the following information:

“I am sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act to ask for the following information:

- (1) From 1st January 2010 to date how many people in total have sat as members on Independent Advisory groups (IAG)**
- (2) From 1st January 2010 to date how many people of South Asian ethnicity have sat as members on Independent Advisory groups (IAG)**
- (3) Can you breakdown those identified in the answer to Q2 by the numbers of male and female South Asian members of IAGs since 1st January 2010?**
- (4) How many IAGs does your force currently have, and can you provide some details of their purpose?**
- (5) Do you have any specific IAGs that deal with South Asian issues? Such as IAGs set up in mosques and temples.**
- (6) Are all IAG members subject to a DBS check by your force?**
- (7) What is the vetting process to become an IAG member?”**

I have reviewed our records and I can advise the following:

- (1) 72 people have sat on the Norfolk Independent Advisory (IAG) group since January 2010. This includes long standing members.
- (2) Since 2016 there have been no IAG members of South Asian ethnicity. Prior to this date there are no records held by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk (OPCCN).
- (3) No information is held by the OPCCN.
- (4) Norfolk has one IAG, the Norfolk Independent Advisory Group. This group consists of local residents from different community backgrounds who work alongside the OPCCN and Norfolk Constabulary. They do this by offering opinions, advice and community-based perspectives with the aim of improving the quality of policing services for the county.
- (5) We do not currently have any specific IAG's that deal with South Asian community challenges. However, current IAG members have connections to local Mosques and Temples as well as a variety of Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) community groups.
- (6) All IAG members are subject to enhanced vetting after application to the IAG. These checks are then repeated every three years.
- (7) IAG members must first complete an application form and if suitable, the applicant is invited to attend an interview with a panel comprising of the lead officer for community engagement from the OPCCN, the Community Safety Inspector and the current chair of IAG. Upon agreement from the panel that the individual is suitable for IAG, they must then complete an enhanced vetting form. Once the vetting procedure is completed and approved the new IAG member will be given confidentiality and disclosure training.

Yours sincerely

L. Smith

Leah Smith
Complaints and Compliance Officer and FOI Decision Maker
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk

Internal Review

If you think we have not supplied information in accordance with Section 1 (the General Right of Access) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, or you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled, then you should write, in the first instance, to:

Mark Stokes
Chief Executive
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk
Building 8
Jubilee House
Falconers Chase
Wymondham
Norfolk
NR18 0WW

Telephone: 01953 424455

Fax: 01953 424462

Email: opccn@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

If you are dissatisfied in any way with our response or the way we have handled your request, you can contact us by phone, email or in writing. We may, in the first instance, try and resolve your complaint informally. However, at any stage you can request or we may decide to treat your complaint formally under our internal review process.

An internal review is conducted by the Chief Executive who will review the request and response, taking account of your complaint(s), and will respond in writing as soon as possible. The Information Commissioner's Office recommends that a response should be made in 20 working days. If we are unable to respond in this timeframe we will inform you and provide a date by which you should expect to receive our response.

If, after the internal review, you remain dissatisfied then you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office, the government regulator for the Freedom of Information Act. Details of how to contact the Information Commissioner's Office can be found at www.ico.gov.uk