

26th November 2021
FOI878 – CON-31110/BM

Sent via email – [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – FOI878– CON-31110

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) office have now completed the search for the information which you requested on the 7th October 2021.

Your request:

As regards the Scrutiny of Police Powers Panel Review of the 14/01/2017 Taser Case, please provide the following:

1. "The Panel's usual practice is to publish a summary of each case the members have reviewed with the officers' details anonymised. Unfortunately, because of the notoriety of this case, anonymisation cannot be achieved and, exceptionally therefore, the Panel cannot follow their normal practice of publishing their comments on the officers' actions."

I appreciate that it may have been considered appropriate that the Panel's comments were not published, but, in my view, the circumstances do not bring this within the exemptions in the Freedom of Information Act. Therefore, please may I request copies of the panel's comments on the officers' actions.

2. "The Panel reviewed the January 2017 case in November 2018. This led to a number of questions being raised with the ASC. The Panel were disappointed with the delayed and limited response from the ASC to these initial questions."

Please provide copies of

- (i) the questions,
- (ii) any correspondence with the panel in relation to them
- (iii) any answers provided to the panel.

3. "The Panel also submitted questions to ASC about the repeated misidentification of X and how Taser was used in this specific incident."

To the extent that they are not covered by response to question 2 above, please provide copies of

- (i) the questions
- (ii) any correspondence with the panel in relation to them
- (iii) any answers provided to the panel.



4. "The misidentification in January 2017 was the second time this particular misidentification has happened. It also happened on two subsequent occasions."

To the extent that the information requested by response to questions 2 and 3 above, please provide

- (i) any correspondence with the panel in relation to the subsequent occasions when misidentification occurred
- (ii) any correspondence with the panel in relation to any formal complaints made concerning the subsequent occasions when misidentification occurred.

Further Freedom of Information Act request concerning the formal complaint in relation to subsequent occasions when misidentification occurred on 17 October 2018

5. On 23 Oct 2018 Thangham Debbonaire MP wrote to the then PCC and then Chief Constable concerning the misidentification of Ras Judah Adunbi on 17 October 2018.

Please provide

- (i) a copy of their replies
- (ii) copies of internal correspondence relating to Ms Debbonaire's statement that Superintendent Bennett had indicated to her that Ras Judah and Royston McCalla look nothing like each other.

Our response:

Questions 1 to 4 – no information is held.

Question 5

- (i) We have looked through our case management system using the search terms 'Thangham Debbonaire MP' and 'Ras Judah Adunbi' and this is the information we have managed to identify and the response provided by the then PCC.

On the 26 October 2018 former PCC Sue Mountstevens provided the following email reply to MP Thangham Debbonaire:

*'Hi Thangam
Thank you for your note. I agree with your comments.
It was also with a heavy heart that I heard what had happened.
Racist attitudes will not be tolerated and I know there are a number of things that
have been put in place. I am meeting with Andy Marsh beginning of next week,
and then he and I can be in touch .
Please be assured that this is being taken very seriously indeed and has
the highest priority.
Thank you for your help and support and I will ring you next week
Warm regards*



Sue'

No information is held into the response generated by the then Chief Constable.

- (ii) The [REDACTED] the PCC in relation to the internal correspondence relating to Ms Debbonaire's statement that Superintendent Bennett had indicated to her that Ras Judah and Royston McCalla look nothing like each other. Should you wish to make a separate request for this information you can do so by contacting the Avon and [REDACTED] Somerset Constabulary Freedom of Information team [here](#).

If you are unhappy about how your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision then you should write to:

The Interim Chief Executive
Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's Office
Valley Road
Portishead
Bristol
BS20 8JJ

Please note, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's office provides you with the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure. The appeals document is attached for your reference.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Officer

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioners Office