

24/10/2025  
REF: RM/I-Case 1715740 FOI820

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – CON-FOI820**

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) office have now completed the search for the information which you requested on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

**Your request:**

Please provide copies of all emails (sent to any recipient) dated between 16 April and 23rd September 2025 that include the words/phrases: "transgender", "trans", "trans women", "gender reassignment", "Supreme Court", "single sex".

Please provide copies of documents (such as policies, checklists, internal memos) that evidence the PCC requiring that services funded or commissioned by the OPCC are adhering to the law as set out in the Equality Act 2010 for the protected characteristic of Sex and as clarified by the Supreme Court in April 2025.

**Our response:**

After careful consideration, we regret to inform you that we are unable to comply with your Part 1 of request. This is because the cost of locating, retrieving, and extracting the requested information would exceed the appropriate limit set out in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Under Section 12, public authorities are not obliged to comply with a request if it would require more than 18 hours of staff time (equivalent to £450) to complete. Due to the broad scope of your request and the absence of automated search capabilities across our email systems and document repositories, fulfilling it would require a manual review of a significant volume of correspondence and documents.

However, we are able to respond to Part 2 of your request and can confirm that advice was issued by the OPCC to commissioned services via email in May 2025, following the Supreme Court ruling in April 2025.

This stated the following:

*The Association of PCCs has this week written to members noting that 'PCCs are responsible for commissioning services for victims-survivors which may be impacted by the ruling. The Ministry of*



*Justice has advised organisations to take into account the [EHRC interim guidance](#), while awaiting further guidance.'*

*The OPCC's expectation as commissioner of any service is that it will be provided in line with all relevant UK Laws and judicial rulings. We will not offer any interpretation or opinion on this legislation or ruling. If this is required then providers are advised to seek their own necessary legal advice*

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 Chief Of Staff  
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**