REQUEST

I am aware that the actual decision to appoint a chair is posted online but I cannot find posted online any of the actual applications made by persons who were subsequently appointed as a chair and could you please provide copies of those applications for the past 10 year period.

RESPONSE

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request of 29 June to the Mayor's Office for Policing And Crime (MOPAC). I can confirm that your request has been handled under the FOI Act 2000 and that MOPAC does hold information relating to your request. Please see our response below.

In order to ensure there is public interest in transparency and accountability for the police misconduct process, MOPAC propose to publish the LQCs' biographies on the MOPAC website in the near future – therefore this information is exempt under Section 22 of the FOI Act – intended for future publication. This is a qualified exemption, therefore the public interest test is required.

Public Interest Test:

Factors favouring disclosure

To disclose the requested information would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent.

Factors favouring non-disclosure

There is a pre-existing intention for MOPAC to publish LQCs' biographies in the near future. This will be done when all the biographies have been prepared and checked, therefore it would not be helpful to publish these in advance, as this could lead to misinformation.

Balance Test

There are factors favouring both disclosure and non-disclosure. The main factor favouring disclosure is openness and accountability; however, the impact of this factor is diminished due to the pre-existing intention of MOPAC to publish this information. As such, it is my decision that the public interest at this time lies in favour of non-disclosure for the reasons outlined above.

Additionally, some of the information contained in LQC application forms may already be published on their firm's websites, linkedIn etc and therefore is already in the public domain - therefore this information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOI Act – information reasonably accessible to the applicant. This is an absolute exemption, therefore no public interest test is required.

Disclosure of any information held within the scope of your request not falling under S21 and S22 above, would breach the first data protection principle (must be lawful and fair), and is therefore exempt from publication under Section 40(2) Data Protection of the FOI Act. This is an absolute exemption, therefore no Public Interest Test is required.

If you are unhappy with the response to your Freedom of Information request, please see the MOPAC website on what the next steps are at: https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-

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