

From: Yvonne Peart
Sent: 14 December 2010 12:37
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: freedom of information request

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information about the report on the Voluntary early departure of police staff which was presented to the Finance & Resources Committee on 18 November 2010. I apologise for the delay in responding.

You asked:

Q1. I would like to know what was the reason for making it an exempt item

Q2. I would like to know further details on the amount of money the MPS are seeking from the reserves

Q3. I would like to know full details of the "early departure" scheme

I am able to respond as follows:

Q1. The report was exempt because of 'Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the Authority or a minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the Authority'.

Q2. Through the MPA Finance & Resources Committee, the MPS have formally requested access to the reserves in order to meet the costs associated with the early departure scheme. On the basis of those staff who have taken up the offer of voluntary terms to date (9 December 2010), the indicative cost of the current scheme is £12,364,000. However, several caveats must be put on this figure. These relate to the fact that the scheme has not yet formally closed, exact departure dates are yet to be confirmed for a number of those who have accepted voluntary terms and individuals are able to withdraw from the scheme up until the date on which they receive their early departure payment. Until these issues are worked through the final cost of the scheme, and hence the exact amount sought from the reserves, will not be known. We anticipate being in a position to confirm final costs on 31 March 2011 - the latest date on which individuals can depart from the MPS in order to be eligible for the CSCS terms being offered.

Q3. The details of the 'early departure' scheme are on the People Pages of the MPS Intranet, which I understand you would be able to access.

I hope that this response answers your questions.

However, if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint about any of the above decisions you may contact me to arrange for an officer who has not had any involvement with this request to review our decision. If you are still unhappy after that, a further request can be made to the Information Commissioner, who will decide whether the request was dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. Further information is available on the Information Commissioner's website:
<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>.

Yvonne Peart
Information Officer