

10<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## **Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20182385**

### **REQUEST**

*I am worried that South Yorkshire Police has been quoting fabricated and intentionally misleading statements / information in their internal and external communications related to their planning and the discussion of police policy regarding policing of tree felling protests in Sheffield.*

*The statement(s) to which I refer is:*

*“They have pulled on and cut safety ropes of Amey workers, olive oil has been sprayed on trees (this could cause a chainsaw to slip), and one tree was discovered to have been studded with nails and glass”.*

*This statement is included in the “Operation Quito Communications Plan” prepared by South Yorkshire Police.*

*It is also referred to in the report dated 12th June 2018 prepared for the Police and Crime Commissioner titled “Policing Sheffield’s Trees Protests” at paragraph 6.2, this was later amended and renumbered to 6.2.1 on 18th October 2018 (after the Commissioner had been made aware of erroneous information).*

- 1. Please provide information detailing when this statement / information was communicated to South Yorkshire Police, how it was communicated and which authority, agency or company provided this statement / information.**
- 2. Please provide the dates and locations of the alleged incidents referred to.**
- 3. Please provide detailed information as to what due diligence was undertaken by South Yorkshire Police to establish the veracity of this statement / information.**

### **RESPONSE**

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Yorkshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt), to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- a.states that fact,
- b.specifies the exemption in question and
- c.states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies to the disclosure of the information:

#### **Section 21 ‘Information which is reasonably accessible by other means’.**

Details such as you are requesting are available if they do not trigger Freedom of Information exemptions, on our South Yorkshire Police website.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/right-to-information/categories-of-significant-interest/>

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/>

Further information is available:

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/news/>

And by using the search function on the website.