

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

**Freedom of Information Request – Reference No:20191481**

**REQUEST**

*The following statement was made at an ‘initial risk assessment meeting’ with South Yorkshire Police; “The new protestors, believed to be professional, are aggressive in nature and have been directing this towards the workers. 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. Protestors are also taking their, often very young, children to protests.” This was subsequently quoted in V1 of the Communications plan for operation Quito and was apparently subjected to 5x5x5 intelligence evaluation.*

- 1.1 What date was this ‘initial risk assessment’ meeting held?*
- 1.2 Was this meeting minuted?*
- 1.3 What companies, organisations and other parties were represented at this meeting?*
- 1.4 Which company or organisation was being represented by the person or persons that made the statement above?*
- 1.5 Was corroboration sought by South Yorkshire Police to establish the veracity of this statement? What corroboration was identified by SYP*
  
- 1.6 When was V1 of the operation’s Communications Plan signed off for distribution?*
- 1.7 How many versions of the Communications plan for operation Quito were created? Please supply the dates each version was signed off for distribution?*
  
- 2.1 When was the 5x5x5 evaluation of the ‘intelligence’ above initiated and when was it completed?*
- 2.2 What ‘Source Evaluation’ category was assigned to this ‘intelligence’ pursuant to the 5x5x5 evaluation; 1, 2 or 3?*
- 2.3 When intelligence assessment was graded for reliability of the source what category was assigned pursuant to the 5x5x5 evaluation; A, B, C, D or E?*
- 2.5 Was each separate allegation in the statement evaluated individually?*
- 2.6 What Handling Code and conditions were assigned to this ‘intelligence’?*
- 3. When the ‘intelligence’ was evaluated using the 5x5x5 method, was reference made to information previously supplied to and acted upon by SYP relating to Operation Testate.*

**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’.**

Much of the information is available on the South Yorkshire Police website either within the Categories of Significant Interest or the Freedom of Information Disclosure Log:

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

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/right-to-information/categories-of-significant-interest/operation-quito-tree-felling-from-jan-2018/op-quitotestate-response/>

FOI requests on this subject can be found within the Disclosure Log by searching with keywords eg. "Quito" or "Testate"

#### Q1.1- 1.5

The transcripts can be found on our SYP Disclosure Log - redactions and exemption apply as previously stated.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/accessing-information/request-information-under-the-freedom-of-information-act/op-quito-meetings-ref-20190374/>

#### Q1.6-1.7

The Comms Plan can be found on SYP Disclosure Log – redactions and exemption apply as previously stated.

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/media/2678/op-quito-communications-plan-note-publish.pdf>

#### Q2.1-3

*I have made reference to the information within my plan but the source and evaluation would not be disclosed.*

<https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk/find-out/right-to-information/categories-of-significant-interest/operation-quito-tree-felling-from-jan-2018/op-quitotestate-response/>