

Request Reference 225: The number of people who have managed to gain access to one-one appointments with the PCC over the last 3 years. In particular, I would like to know how many requests you have received and how many you declined prior to each surgery.

Date Received: 22/06/2017

Further to your request for information, above, I can provide the following:

From June 2014 to June 2017 the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) held 26 public surgeries. There were 74 appointment slots. Information is not recorded in relation to the number of people who attended each appointment (some people wish to bring along members of their family or friends). You can, however, find further information about the surgery process via this link:

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/meet-mark.aspx>

I am afraid that I am unable to comply with your request for the number of requests for an appointment and the number of requests declined because I estimate that doing this will exceed the fees limit provided for by Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). This states that a public authority is exempt from the duty to disclose where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed £450 (based on a standard cost of £25/hr, ie where the time taken to comply with the request would exceed 18 hours). The cost of compliance is the cost involved in determining whether the information is held, locating it, retrieving it and extracting it.

A separate record is not kept of the number of requests for a surgery appointment or the number declined. To identify this information, therefore, would require each case (or request for OPCC assistance) to be assessed individually. Approximately 3,600 cases have been received by the OPCC since June 2014 and we estimate that it would take 10 minutes per case to scan the information held to search for a request for a meeting and the OPCC response.

The PCC may also have one-to-one meetings with people in addition to surgery appointments. You can find further information about the PCC's diary on the following link:

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/news-events/diary.aspx>

A separate record is not kept of the number of one-to-one meetings outside of the surgery process, I am afraid and, therefore, for the reasons identified above I am unable to provide you with information about the number of meetings or the number of people who have met the PCC other than through surgeries because to do so would exceed the fees limit set by the FOIA.

I hope you are satisfied with the way your request has been handled, however, should you wish to request an internal review of this response please write to the OPCC as detailed on the attached appeal procedure.