

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST, REF 180

Request:

Has the present Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) had any personal relationship with Sir Norman Bettison in that he visited various rugby league grounds with Sir Norman either in a private or public capacity.

Has the Police and Crime Commissioner made any overseas visits with Sir Norman in any capacity, either on public duty or in a private capacity, or if he met with Sir Norman on any such trips abroad in any capacity.

Response:

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 applies to information which is recorded by public authorities. It does not provide for disclosure of information which is not already recorded, ie, it does not require information to be created in response to requests. The information which is disclosed here has been recorded by the OPCC or by its predecessor, the Police Authority.

The OPCC (and the Police Authority) publishes details of gifts and hospitality received by the PCC and employees or members. I am including, below, an extract of the register relating to Mark Burns-Williamson in his capacity either as PCC or as Chair of the Police Authority and which refer to rugby league. No inference should be made from this information about a personal relationship between Mr Burns-Williamson and any other person.

Oct 2008	Guest of Chief Constable to Super League Grand Final and meal from the sponsors (Engage)
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Details of all gifts and hospitality relating to the OPCC are available on our website at:

<https://www.westyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/about/mark/register-of-gifts-and-hospitality.aspx>

The Police and Crime Commissioner has made no overseas trips on public duty since he was elected in November 2012.

As Chair of the Police Authority Mark Burns-Williamson made an overseas trip to the United States of America in 2011.

I am attaching an extract from the minutes of the Police Authority meeting of 23 September 2011 which includes further information about the visit to New York in 2011 (point 28(e)). From this you will see that the Chair made the trip at no cost to the public purse, attending a 911 remembrance ceremony in support of the British contingent and the West Yorkshire Police Band.

No information is held about Mr Burns-Williamson's private overseas travel.