

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Appeals Procedure

If I'm not happy with the information I've received from Cheshire Constabulary what can I do?

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, people have the right to appeal against the decision made in response to a request for information. Cheshire Constabulary has appointed an independent appeals officer whose contact details can be found below: -

FOI Appeals Officer
Information Management Unit
Cheshire Constabulary Headquarters
Clemonds Hey
Oakmere Road
Winsford
CW7 2UA

Direct dial: 01244 614113

Fax: 01244 614133

E-mail: foi@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

You can contact the appeals officer by letter, fax or e-mail stating why you are not happy with the information you have received or the decision made in your particular case. Please ensure your correspondence contains your name, address and full particulars of your appeal. It will also be helpful if you include a telephone number where you can be contacted in case of any queries.

How long will an appeal take?

Appeals are sometimes very complex and its not possible to give a definitive timescale. It's important that the appeals officer looks at ever aspect of the appeal and on occassions a panel of suitably qualified people may need to be formed.

There is no set timescale for appeals laid down in the Act. Cheshire Constabulary will make every effort to respond to your appeal as soon as we are able, but in more complex cases an appeal can take a considerable time. We aim to respond within 20 working days of an appeal in all cases. This may however be extended to two months when necessary.

You will be kept fully informed at all stages of the appeal process and a more realistic timescale will be provided in each individual case. The appeals officer is available on the number above to answer your queries.

If I'm still not happy after I have received my appeal response. What can I do then?

The Information Commissioner is an independent regulator of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. His office is based in Wilmslow, Cheshire and individuals can contact him to request a decision in any particular case.

The Commissioner has wide powers to inspect records held by a Public Authority to enable him to reach a decision on whether the particular Public Authority has complied with the law.

The Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Tel: 01625 545700

Water Lane

Fax: 01625 524510

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>