



Information Commissioner's Office
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FAO
Mr.A.Laing
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Monday, 8th December, 2014.

BURNS

My Ref: PB03314.

Summary FOIA and DPA Requests.

Dear Mr. Laing,

1. Following our conversation on the 26th November 2014 I volunteering to postpone the publication of my Chapter entitled "A Litany of Dismal Failures of the ICO" on 'The Morning Bugler', my website.
This was, and is, to give the ICO an opportunity to intervene and correct the unlawful non-compliance of the LFRS and the LCC in all relevant matters and to prevent matters going into 'drift' once more;
2. As I see it, on a more personal level, this will allow you a limited time in which to demonstrate to me not only your professional integrity but that you are determined to ensure that the LFRS and the LCC, this time around, are going to put themselves into compliance with the law 'promptly' and put matters right where we are concerned;
3. You assured me that you would immediately send someone to check the validity of the LFRS filing system, though I have to say that having made this 'Assessment' supported by the Court Orders several times over already I find it difficult to grasp how, in any event , you can reverse such decisions?
4. I thought it would be helpful for the record to briefly summarise the lamentable performance of the ICO in respect of the disabled FSVs and their Widows whom, by their choice, I represent since 2007 and to record the current status of some, but by no means all, of their Requests;
5. I first engaged with the ICO on the 24th January 2008. At an early point in this pension debacle/dispute in October 2010 the ICO rightly placed the LCC on its performance monitoring list for a period of 6 months because of its then non-compliance failures;
6. I also have available evidence of the endemic secrecy which pervades the actions of the current Access to Information Manager Mr. Sayles's interesting approach at a very early point in conjunction with Mrs Lister Head of LCC Pensions Services to their Statutory duties. This was in concurrence with the LFRS solicitor's(Mr.Harold) whose first dismissive response set the tone of joint stonewalling which was to follow.

7. All this evidence gives a flavour of the consistent non-compliance with the Acts and sheer obfuscation and stonewalling obstruction which jointly the LCC and the LFRS(in particular) have engaged in since 2008, to date;
8. Regrettably the Commissioner in a complete abrogation of his public and Statutory duty permitted these local authorities to act with impunity against 'Assessments' by his own junior members of the staff and to act contrary to Court Orders for Disclosures which at the expense of the disabled FSVs supported the Commissioner's position.
In this matter your Ms Hargreaves carried out some formidable and praiseworthy work until she was disgracefully disavowed by your Mr.White, her line manager;
9. The issue of the PRFs, which started in 2008, the first contact being made with the ICO by myself on the 24th January 2008 continues like a suppurating ulcer to this very day.
This matter remains current with the LFRS continuing refusal to release PRFs to those who desire to obtain them for their own purposes and particularly so that they can check and compute the accuracy of their in-payment pensions.
10. I have supplied and/or passed on to your staff, at their request, current applications from FSVs for release of information/subject data and a copy of the last successful Court Order for Disclosure.
This issue is still active and requires immediate intervention by the ICO;
11. To establish the current position in real terms assuming that Messers' Gardner(LFRS) and Sayles(LCC) will have retained in both archive and current records, which the Statute law and the ICO requires of them the records of all applications under both Acts from the FSVs and their Widows since 2008 will require a root and branch examination by the ICO of both organisations' records and failures to act in compliance with the law over this extended period.
This requires immediate intervention by the ICO;
12. A current item concerns FSV Mr.Hinton who for the past 2 years has resolutely pursued the release of the Public Expenses records of CC D.O'Toole and the former CFO Holland although from my archives it is clear I made the first request for these in 2010. These have been equally resolutely stonewalled by Mr.Gardner without legal justification or explanation as the law demands.
This has now reached the point of impasse due to lack of intervention by the ICO whereby further requests remain unacknowledged and ignored.
This is still active and requires immediate intervention by the ICO;
13. Next there is the matter of the Public Complaints Book which the LFRS retain for public scrutiny and the 'extra-curricular activities of the then CFO Holland.
This is still active and requires immediate intervention by the ICO;
14. Last July I initiated a simple and innocuous request for pension statistics with which you will not be familiar.
As usual this was stonewalled after I requested a 'review'. Although the LFRS agreed that my request was 'different' from previous requests, they by ludicrous crystal ball gazing, determined what my envisaged use would be for this information, and refused.
This now reaches beyond institutionalised non-compliance with the Acts, to the ridiculous.

This is still active and requires immediate intervention by the ICO;

15. In the interim as you will have noticed from the email copies which I have sent you I have once more raised a particularly serious Request with both the LCC and the LFRS. This simple topic is secret character assassination by defamation through criminality, on which our advising barrister has an eye.

Though not yet at your door these are in due process, I would appreciate, and I anticipate, that you will wish to monitor how these particular requests are handled?

This is still active and requires immediate monitoring by the ICO.

16. I think it is best and more efficient if I simply attach this information and other subjects touched on here on an Editorial (008) on my website.

17. I feel duty bound to remind you that your department, your peers, and the staff under your management are currently under Triennial Review by the Department of Justice commencing on the 25th of November 2014. This gives immediate 'poormans' access to the Justice Select Committee to make direct contributions to this review on the manner and professionalism the FSVs see how their taxpayers monies are being effectively spent by the ICO in customer service delivery.

One would assume that you will regard these issues with the LFRS and the LCC as an opportunity not only to rebuild confidence in you as an individual civil servant serving our best interests, but in the department, of which you are currently the Head?

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul P. Burns". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Paul P. Burns. GIFireE