

Mr Alan Dransfield

26 June 2024

Dear Mr Dransfield,

I write in respect of case reference **IC-308794-D4W8** and your complaint about Lincolnshire Police.

As you know, since March 2018 we have refused a number of your complaints as vexatious. We wrote to you in March 2018 and again in May 2020 setting out the reasons why we were taking that approach.

On 13 August 2021 I wrote to you regarding case reference IC-117962-W4K0, where I confirmed the ICO would continue to consider the individual circumstances of any complaint you submit. However, in the absence of any meaningful improvement in your engagement with the FOIA process, it was likely that the Commissioner would continue to use section 50(2)(c) of FOIA to refuse your complaints.

I have now reviewed our approach to your complaints again and I remain satisfied that this approach is appropriate. As a result, the Commissioner declines to investigate the above complaint, or issue a decision, because he considers the complaint to be vexatious.

The Commissioner's assessment of the correspondence that you periodically send or copy him into, is that you continue to refuse to accept the proper and final outcomes of the statutory or judicial processes you are engaged in. The Commissioner consider this behaviour unacceptable.

You continue to direct abuse, threats and accusations at the organisations you make requests to, the Commissioners, various judges and their respective staffs. For example, in March you copied us into correspondence addressed to the General Regulatory Chamber stating that:

"I have no hesitation to state Judge Rintoul will deny my rights for appeal because if Judge Rintoul cuts himself shaving he bleeds ICO blood . In laymans [sic] language Judge Rintoul comes from the same mould as Judge Nicholas Whikely [sic] whom [sic] has been the driver of the Dransfield Vexatious BS and the lifetime ban on me using the FOI.

"I do not give a fat rats ass if Judge [sic] Rintoulf [sic] denys [sic] my appeal request as then I will apply directly to the UT and as long as Judge Wikely keeps his nose out , justice will prevail."

In another email, sent to Huntingdon Town Council in April, you stated:

"I understand Michel [sic] Sacks is your new CEO.

"I have been dealing with this woman for 6/7 years and I consider her to be a fraudster and she has been acting in concert with the ICO to pervert the course of justice."

Michelle Sacks is the Chief Executive of Huntingdonshire District Council.

You still refuse to accept the judgement of the Court of Appeal in Dransfield v Information Commissioner & Devon County Council [2015] EWCA Civ 454 – or to repay the costs that were awarded against you in that case. We regard this as more evidence of your general refusal to accept the information rights processes.

Furthermore, there would be implications for the public purse if we were to begin routinely accepting complaints from you as a delinquent creditor. It is highly probably that you would appeal any decisions as far as you are permitted to do and would refuse to pay any costs awarded against you. This constitutes a drain on the taxpayer which we must be mindful of.

Put simply, there has been no significant change since 2018. You are still refusing to exercise your information rights in a responsible manner.

Allowing you to resume making complaints to us in those circumstances would risk us being seen to condone such behaviour. We would be bringing the legislation and our organisation into disrepute by allowing such behaviour to go unchallenged.

The decision to refuse to deal with your complaint because we consider it engages section 50(2)(c) of FOIA is final and is not subject to further internal review.

Should you wish to challenge this decision, you will need to seek a judicial review. There are strict time limits to seeking such a review and if you intend to do so, we would recommend that you seek independent legal advice without delay. You should draw your legal adviser's attention to the date of this letter. As mentioned in our previous letters, you may also seek to complain to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman. In order to pursue such a complaint, you should contact your local MP.

We will review any future complaints you make to us, but we reserve our right to continue refusing them in the absence of evidence that you are prepared to engage properly with the legislation.

Yours sincerely



Phillip Angell  
Head of FOI Casework