

FOI Request: 17/2026

I write in connection with your request for information received in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire on the 29th June 2026. You asked the following questions:

“1. Is the PCC aware of the drug and alcohol testing policy used by Derbyshire Constabulary for its officers, police staff, and contractors? If so, does the PCC hold a copy of that policy, and has the PCC reviewed or approved it?

2. Does the Derbyshire Constabulary drug testing policy include the following safeguards:

(a) Confirmatory laboratory testing (e.g. LC-MS/MS or GC-MS) before any adverse action is taken on the basis of an immunoassay screening result;

(b) Review by an independent Medical Review Officer (MRO) or equivalent qualified professional;

(c) Consideration of lawful explanations for a positive result, including the use of commercially available CBD products, prescribed cannabinoid-based medicines (e.g. Sativex, Epidiolex), or dietary sources;

(d) Referral to Occupational Health before disciplinary proceedings?

3. In the last three years, has the PCC received any complaints, representations, or correspondence from officers, staff, or members of the public regarding Derbyshire Constabulary's drug testing procedures or outcomes?

4. Has the PCC commissioned, funded, or overseen any substance misuse or drug testing services in the Derbyshire area? If so, do the commissioning contracts or service specifications require the safeguards listed in Question 2?

5. Is the PCC aware of any officer or staff member of Derbyshire Constabulary who has been dismissed or subjected to disciplinary action based solely on an unconfirmed immunoassay drug screening result (i.e. without confirmatory laboratory testing)?”

I can confirm that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire holds some of the information that you have asked for.

“1. Is the PCC aware of the drug and alcohol testing policy used by Derbyshire Constabulary for its officers, police staff, and contractors? If so, does the PCC hold a copy of that policy, and has the PCC reviewed or approved it?

Yes, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is aware of the drug and alcohol testing policy used by Derbyshire Constabulary for its officers and police staff.

As the policy is owned by Derbyshire Constabulary, the PCC wouldn't approve it nor does she or her office hold a copy of this. If you would like a copy of the Constabulary's policy on drug and alcohol testing, I would advise you to submit an FOI request to the Constabulary directly. You can do this via the following link: [I want to find information about the police | Derbyshire Constabulary](#).

3. In the last three years, has the PCC received any complaints, representations, or correspondence from officers, staff, or members of the public regarding Derbyshire Constabulary's drug testing procedures or outcomes?

Yes.

4. Has the PCC commissioned, funded, or overseen any substance misuse or drug testing services in the Derbyshire area? If so, do the commissioning contracts or service specifications require the safeguards listed in Question 2?

We can confirm that yes, the PCC commissions a drug service called, 1625 which is an outreach service for educational purposes only.

The PCC has also funded the Constabulary with funds to undertake drug testing on arrest.

There is no information regarding the safeguards listed in Question 2, as this information may be held by the Constabulary therefore, to obtain this information, please submit an FOI to the Constabulary directly. You can do this via the following link: [I want to find information about the police | Derbyshire Constabulary](#).

This is to inform you that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire does not hold the information you have requested based on the information you have provided.

"2. Does the Derbyshire Constabulary drug testing policy include the following safeguards:

- (a) Confirmatory laboratory testing (e.g. LC-MS/MS or GC-MS) before any adverse action is taken on the basis of an immunoassay screening result;**
- (b) Review by an independent Medical Review Officer (MRO) or equivalent qualified professional;**
- (c) Consideration of lawful explanations for a positive result, including the use of commercially available CBD products, prescribed cannabinoid-based medicines (e.g. Sativex, Epidiolex), or dietary sources;**
- (d) Referral to Occupational Health before disciplinary proceedings?**



5. Is the PCC aware of any officer or staff member of Derbyshire Constabulary who has been dismissed or subjected to disciplinary action based solely on an unconfirmed immunoassay drug screening result (i.e. without confirmatory laboratory testing)?”

Derbyshire Constabulary may hold this information and I give below a link to the Force's website where you can make a FOI request to them direct: [I want to find information about the police | Derbyshire Constabulary](#).

If you are not satisfied with our response to your request, you are entitled to ask for an internal review of our decision. Any internal review needs to be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of this response and state why you are unhappy with the response. You can submit an internal review in the following ways:

- Emailing the OPCC Inbox – PCCOffice@Derbyshire.PNN.Police.UK or.
- Writing to the OPCC at –
The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire
Butterley Hall
Ripley
Derbyshire
DE5 3RS
- By phone – 0300 122 6000 (as a reasonable adjustment under the Equality Act 2010).

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review under Section 50 of the FOIA you can apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by the OPCC. You can contact the ICO in the following ways:

- Online at the ICO – <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/> or;
- Writing to the ICO at –
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marie Romano', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marie Romano
On behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner

