



**Public
Prosecution
Service**

**Policy and Information Unit
Public Prosecution Service
Belfast Chambers
93 Chichester Street
Belfast BT1 3JR**

[REDACTED]
FOI 2288/20-21

26 April 2021

[REDACTED]

I refer to your email dated 30 March 2021 in which you asked for information regarding the decision not to prosecute individuals for breaches of the Coronavirus regulations in connection with the attendance at the funeral of Bobby Storey on 30 June 2020. Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Freedom of Information Act creates rights of access for any person making a request for information to a public authority. The rights of access are twofold. First, to be informed by the public authority if it holds information of the description specified in the request, and if that is the case, secondly, to be provided with that information. These rights are subject to important limitations, which are designed to achieve a proper balance between the right to know and considerations of law and policy in the broader public interest.

You had asked the following:

“Please provide me with the following information. Bobby Storey funeral.

1/ A full timeline of the PPS investigation?

2/ All correspondence between the PPS and PSNI on this matter with the exception of any potential prosecution files sent by the PSNI?

3/ At any stage did the PPS contact the NI Secretary of State in relation to this matter or vice versa - all dates ?

4/ The total cost of the investigation?”

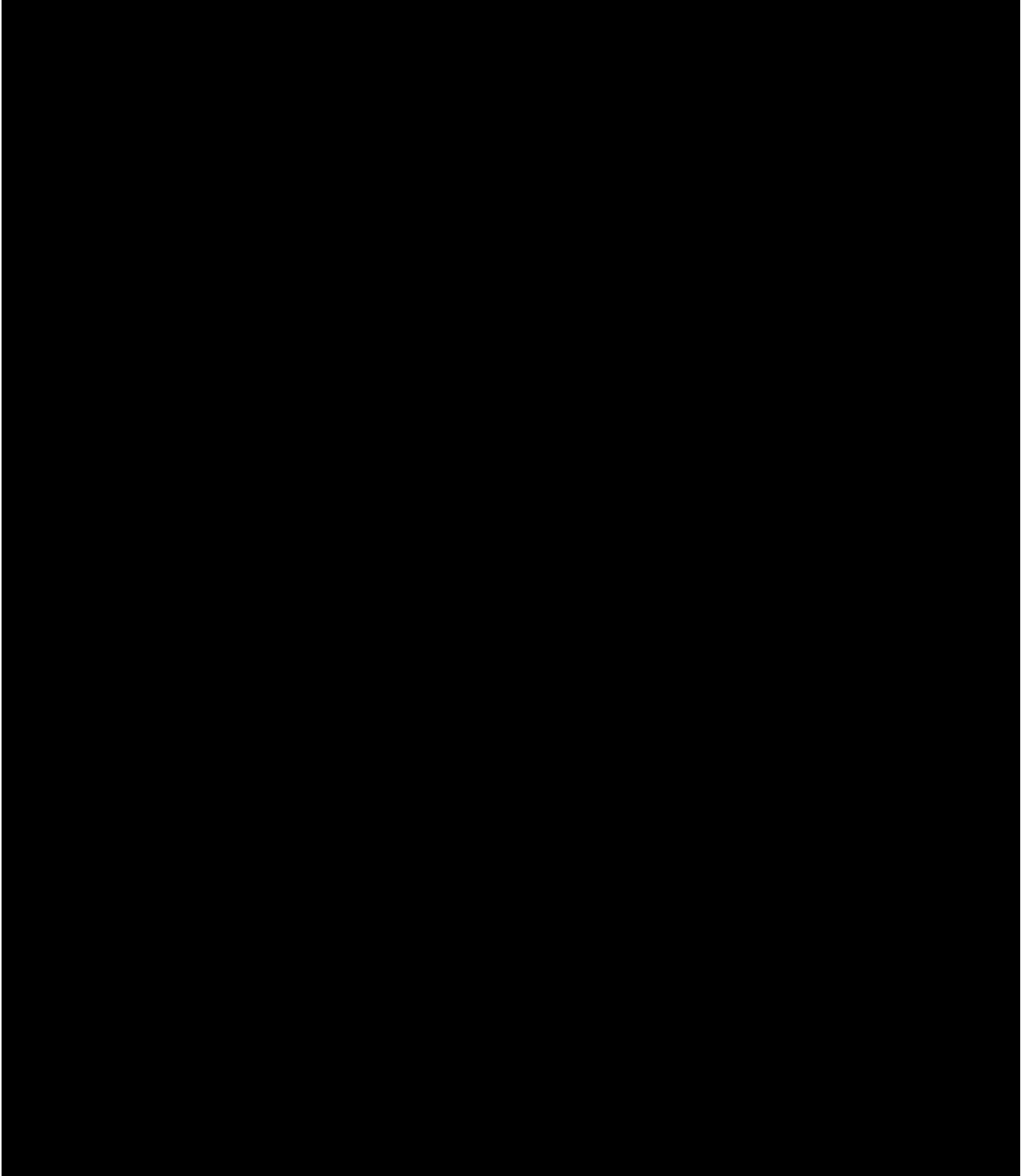
In response I can advise as follows;

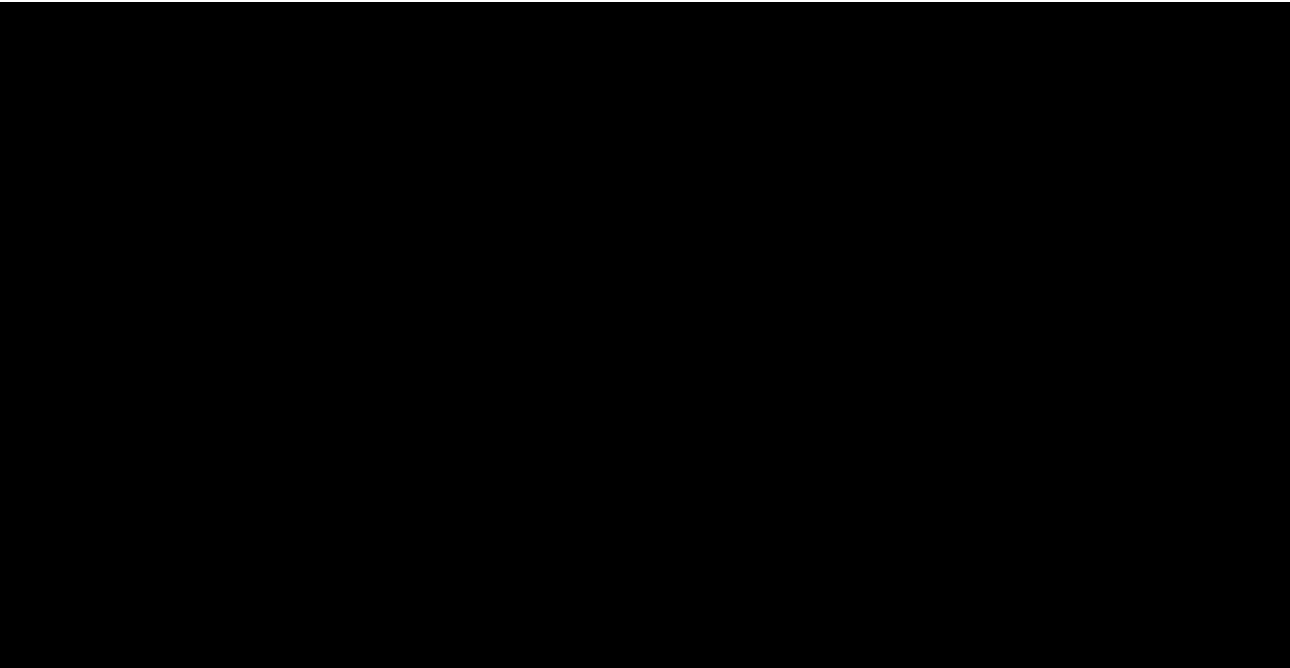
1. A full timeline of the PPS investigation?

The full investigation file was received by PPS 18 December 2020 and the decision issued on 30th March 2021.

2. All correspondence between the PPS and PSNI on this matter with the exception of any potential prosecution files sent by the PSNI?

In response I can advise that the PPS holds information which falls within the scope of your request, however I have identified that the exemptions in section 30 (Investigations and proceedings Conducted by Public Authorities) apply.





3. At any stage did the PPS contact the NI Secretary of State in relation to this matter or vice versa - all dates?

I can advise that there has not been any contact between the NI Secretary of State and the PPS in relation to this matter or vice versa.

4. The total cost of the investigation?

The investigation and cost thereof is a matter for police. In response I can advise the information requested is not held by the PPS. Therefore in terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I can confirm that under Section 1(1) (a) of the Act the PPS does not hold the requested information.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our review procedure. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of this response and you can do so by writing to the Head of Policy and Information, Public Prosecution Service, Belfast Chambers, 93 Chichester Street, BELFAST, BT1 3JR or alternatively by sending an e-mail to info@ppsni.gov.uk. You should state clearly the grounds on which you are requesting the review.

Alternatively, you may wish to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane

Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

PPS FOI Section