

HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate
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http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmcpsi/

## Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

In your request you asked for the following information.

Under the United Kingdom's Perjury act 1911 it states;

1) If any person lawfully sworn as a witness or as an interpreter in a judicial proceeding wilfully makes a statement material in that proceeding, which he knows to be false or does not believe to be true, he shall be guilty of perjury, and shall, on conviction thereof on indictment, be liable to penal servitude for a term not exceeding seven years, or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine or to both such penal servitude or imprisonment and fine"

The above legislation is clear, that any person proven to have given false evidence in proceedings before any court or tribunal, will have broken the law.

- 1/ Are you aware that the police are not taking reports on Perjury in the family courts?
- 2/ Should the Police be taking all legitimate reports of perjury seriously?
- 3/ Has the CPS at any time instructed or advised the Police, to tell members of the public on reporting Perjury in the family courts that they can do nothing as it is a civil matter?
- 4/ How many reports of Perjury in the family courts have made it to the CPS in the last 5 years?
- 5/ How did those reports reach the CPS? such as via Police or other?
- 6/ How many of those reports in the past 5 years were investigated?
- 7/ How many of those reports ended in prosecution?
- 8/ How many reports of Perjury in the criminal courts have reached the CPS in the last 5 years?
- 9/ Does the CPS agree that unchallenged Perjury perverts the course of justice, undermines the court process and can lead to unsafe judicial outcomes?
- 10/ Does the CPS accept the Perjury Act is blanket legislation which covers the act of Perjury in all courts and tribunals which includes the family courts?
- 11/ Do all officers and agents of the CPS recognise the The Perjury Act as law?

12/ what is the main professional objective of a CPS officer or agent?

13/ if a member of the public can prove that someone has committed perjury in the family court and they are a victim of such perjury, what course of action is open to them to initiate an investigation by law enforcement, if they do not have the funds to engage lawyers?

We do not hold the information within the scope of this request.

By way of background - The remit of the Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI) is to inspect the Crown Prosecution Service and the Serious Fraud Office.

You may wish to direct your request to the Crown Prosecution Service as per link below:

## https://www.cps.gov.uk/publication/freedom-information

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of our response to your request, please send full details within two calendar months of the date of this email and send to the below email address:

info@HMCPSI.gov.uk

You also have the right to ask the Information Commissioner to investigate any aspect of your complaint. Please note that the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is likely to expect the internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning an investigation.