

Cathy

Enforcement Lawyer - Regulatory Action Division:

My name is Cathy, my job title is Enforcement Lawyer in the Regulatory Action Division. I've worked for the Information Commissioner's Office for about eight years. My role in this particular case was to draft the enforcement notice that was served on Mr Ian Kerr trading as the Consulting Association.

I had to work quickly and draft the enforcement notice within about 48 hours, the reason for this was that the Investigations Manager had seized certain information from Mr Kerr which he had to return the following week. When I completed my first draft of the enforcement notice I then consulted with the Assistant Commissioner responsible for policy, and also the Deputy Commissioner who is responsible for data protection. Once I'd obtained their comments I then prepared a final version of the enforcement notice ready for the Deputy Commissioner's signature. We were then ready to serve the enforcement notice on Mr Kerr.

The department was working with other departments across the organisation. It was also very good for morale because we had to work very quickly, and within a few days the news was on the front pages of the newspapers.

My role from here is to look in to the evidence which will be obtained by the Investigations Manager, in to the role played by the construction companies who obtained the information from Mr Kerr. It may be necessary to take further enforcement action against those companies.

One of the good things about working for the Information Commissioner's Office is that you feel like you're making a difference to individuals who may not otherwise be able to work in their chosen profession.