



Freedom of Information Request: **2008/543**

Response Date: **18/12/2008**

**2008/543 – Miscellaneous – DNA Database**

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

**1/ for each calendar year since 2002, how many DNA profiles were contributed by your force to the NDNAD.**

Due to changes in electronic systems North Wales Police can only easily retrieve information from 2004 onwards in relation to profiles added to the National DNA Database. Information prior to 2004 is held however to retrieve it would be above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) regulations 2004, as we would have to employ a specialist to retrieve the data.

Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 of the legislation.

The National DNA database may be able to assist you to obtain the information form 2002 to 2004, the contact details are as follows;

FOI Enquiries  
109 Lambeth Road  
London SE1 7LP

Or email: [foienquiries@fss.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foienquiries@fss.pnn.police.uk)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of profiles added to the NDNAD</b>
2004	5612
2005	6033
2006	5540
2007	6155
2008 (1/1/08-31/10/08 only)	4840

**2/ for each calendar year since 2002, how many DNA profiles were contributed to the NDNAD of individuals that were arrested by your force. If this is different from the number of times officers from your force took DNA samples from arrested individuals, please provide this number as well and explain the reason for the difference.**

**3/ for each calendar year since 2002, how many DNA profiles were contributed to the NDNAD of individuals that volunteered their DNA samples to your force. If this is different from the number of times officers from your force took DNA samples from volunteers, please provide this number as well and explain the reason for the difference.**

North Wales Police systems only record DNA records to a custody record, therefore we only record DNA taken from those people that have been arrested.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Samples taken</b>
2004	6558
2005	7297
2006	6793
2007	6955
2008 (1/1/08-31/10/08 only)	6270

<b>Year</b>	<b>Samples sent to Lab</b>
2004	6075
2005	6232
2006	5921
2007	6209
2008 (1/1/08-31/10/08 only)	5241

Samples sent to the lab can be rejected when they examine them, for a number of reasons.

If a person already has a confirmed/profiled sample on the Police National Computer then another sample is not needed (*unless* the confirmed sample is from before a certain date and another is needed for evidential reasons). When there is a confirmed sample already and another sample is then taken and submitted, the new sample is destroyed in force by Forensic Submissions.

**4/ for each calendar year since 2002, how many requests for DNA records removals has your force received. How many individuals who had their DNA taken when arrested sent these requests, and how many individuals who volunteered their DNA sent these requests.**

There is no central department who would deal with requests for removal, therefore to obtain the information in the format you have requested would involve manually reviewing each record on our force system. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 of the legislation.

However, I can advise that our legal department has received two requests in 2006 and two in 2007 for DNA removal.

North Wales Police systems only record DNA records to a custody record, therefore we only record DNA taken from those people that have been arrested.

**5/ For each calendar year since 2002, how many requests for DNA records removals has your force agreed to (i.e., where the Chief Officer decided "Yes - Action the removal of PNC, fingerprint and DNA records" as described in the step down model flowchart). How many were agreed for individuals who had their DNA taken when arrested; and how many were agreed for individuals who volunteered their DNA.**

After the circumstances of the four requests were considered by the Chief Constable the said DNA records were destroyed, as the circumstances were considered to be exceptional cases.

We retain the information under the relevant legislation.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST UNDER THE  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT **10/12/2008**