


From: "Collington, Scott" <Scott.Collington@Dorset.PNN.Police.uk>
Subject: **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 446/11/2008**
Date: 23 December 2008 00:38:40 GMT+09:00
To: <dmery@acm.org>
 1 Attachment, 13.8 KB

Dear Mr. Mery,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 446/11/2008

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by Dorset Police on 18th November 2008. I note you seek access to the following information:

· **National DNA Database.**

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Dorset Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Dorset Police.

Decision

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you in full.

You specifically requested the following information

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

2. (a) For each calendar year since 2002, how many DNA profiles were contributed to the NDNAD of individuals that were arrested by your force. (b) 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.)

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.

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.

Result of Searches

Question1

Please see attachment to this document

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Question 2 (a)

These figures are the same as 1 above. A DNA profile is not taken unless a person has been arrested.

Question 2 (b)

Please see attachment to this document.

The difference in figures can be for a number of reasons:-

- (a). Sample already recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) therefore duplicate not sent for loading onto the database.
- (b). Sample taken for a non-recordable offence and therefore not required. These categories change hence the potential for a sample to be taken in error.
- (c). Original sample faulty, - various reasons - incorrect kit used, tube not sealed, barcode missing from one of the samples, anything that does not confirm to standard set by the processing forensic laboratory.

A central submissions unit monitors all profiles taken and checks are made to ensure all samples submitted comply with current legislation.

Question 3

All volunteer samples are taken by officers and police staff therefore there will be no difference in the numbers taken. No central record is kept of volunteer samples as these will relate to individual crimes. Samples will only be sent to a laboratory for profiling if the circumstances of the case require either a comparison profile or an elimination profile. This is case specific and the profile obtained would be used in relation to the case. It would not be loaded to the DNA database.

Question 4 and 5

The Retention Guidelines for Nominal Records on the Police National Computer replaced the Association of Chief Police Officer's General Rules for Criminal Record Weeding on Police Systems on the 31st March 2006. This includes the retention of DNA and Fingerprints associated with records. The organisation charged with management of retention/weeding on PNC is ACRO (ACPO Criminal Records Office).

I have only been able to ascertain figures going back to 2006 in respect of submissions to ACRO. I cannot be anymore specific about each individual case.

2006 - 1 Application, removed from PNC
2007 - 2 Applications, 1 removed and 1 retained
2008 - 2 Applications, 1 removed and 1 pending

Dorset Police only hold information going back to 2006 in respect of applications for removal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Dorset Police. Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact me on telephone number 01202 223590 quoting the reference number.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Collington
Freedom of Information Officer (Temp)

Dorset Police provides you the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure. If you decide to request such a review you should address your request to the Head of the Professional Standards Department, Dorset Police Headquarters, Winfrith, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8DZ, or email foi@dorset.pnn.police.uk . You have a further right to ask the Information Commissioners Office to decide whether or not your request has been appropriately dealt with, but they will not consider your complaint until the Dorset Police Review Procedure has been concluded.

Please visit us at www.dorset.police.uk

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Answer to Question 1

Year	Total
2002	5387
2003	4613
2004	5134
2005	6823
2006	6979
2007	5860
2008 up to September	4105

Answer to Question 2 (b)

Year	Total
2002	6230
2003	4976
2004	5801
2005	7805
2006	8005
2007	6815
2008 up to September	4612