

**From:** "Osborne, Vanessa" <Vanessa.Osborne@btp.pnn.police.uk>  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request 793/08  
**Date:** 15 January 2009 13:26:15 GMT  
**To:** <dmery@acm.org>

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Dear Mr Mery,

In respect of your Freedom of Information request:

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

**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.)**

**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.**

British Transport Police can confirm that it holds data in relation to DNA profiles, however these details are not held in a compiled format. Consequently BTP is unable provide the information for questions 1, 2, 3 and 4. To ascertain the information for question 1, 2 and 3 would require BTP to examine custody records and/or case papers to determine whether the reported persons /volunteer's DNA was taken and profiled. To ascertain the information for question 4 would require BTP to locate and review local records for each area. In 2007/08 there were approximately 70,000 Notifiable offences reported. Of that number almost 19,000 offences were cleared. We would have to search through many thousands of records to retrieve the information requested. I must therefore advise you that it will not be possible to deal with this part of the request within the 'Appropriate Limit' laid down within the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 exempts public authorities from the obligation to disclose the information requested, if the cost of doing so exceeds the 'Appropriate Limit'. This is currently set at £450 and equates to a maximum of 18 hours work. To meet your request would far exceed the threshold and BTP therefore are not obliged to answer this part of your request.

In respect of question 5, in the last 4 years there have been 3 requests for DNA records removals where BTP have deleted an individual's DNA profile under the exceptional case review.

Best regards,

**Vanessa Osborne**  
Information Standards Co-ordinator  
Data Protection and Freedom of Information

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