

Request reference: 1862/08

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

See below.

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.)

In 2007 the following were loaded:

36,516 records for persons/arrested/charged/convicted of recorded offences.

2,476 profiles from crime stains.

The data for other years are not held in a central document and therefore to locate the information would involve a manual search of each record. Researching each individual case would exceed the appropriate limit (FOIA, s.12 (1)). This means that 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 locating and retrieving the information exceeds the "appropriate level" as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004. For West Midlands Police, the appropriate limit is set at £450, as prescribed by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, S.I. 3244. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

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.)

We do not hold the data for any full calendar year.

Samples are often taken at the start of an investigation whilst there is an opportunity. If these samples are not required for investigation purposes they are not used. There is a cost to the public purse to action these samples and the taking of volunteer samples purely to populate the database is not a viable proposition as there is no reliable tracking system to make them more than poor intelligence. Arrested-person samples are supported by other police records containing fingerprints and photographs and so provide usable intelligence.

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05/12/08

Ref: 1862_ans_01

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.

A majority of samples from volunteers contain permission to use for the purpose of the investigation only and are not to be loaded to the database. All volunteer samples are therefore checked to ensure the providers' wishes are honoured. Where there is no permission the sample is destroyed by the supplier on the completion of the investigation. If a person wishes to check we can carry out verification checks with the database.

Therefore the figures below contain the only data we hold in a central record regarding arrested persons. As with the answer to questions 1 and 2 to locate the figures would require a manual search and would therefore exceed the appropriate limit.

Year	Requests received
2004	4
2005	4
2006	58
2007	49
2008¹	83

1) To 21 November 2008

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.

See above regarding volunteer's samples and data for previous years.

Year	Authority granted
2006	25
2007	7
2008¹	28 (so far)

1) To 21 November 2008