

c/o PO BOX 481
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

Email: npcc.foi.request@npfdu.police.uk

06/04/2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 054/2023

Thank you for your request for information regarding PNC Access; which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

I am writing to request the following information regarding access to the Police National Computer (PNC):

1. Is access to the PNC still determined by the PNC Information Access Panel (PIAP)?
2. If the answer to Q.1 is 'no', who is now responsible for making that determination?
3. If the answer to Q.1 is 'yes', please confirm the organisations which constitute the PIAP.
4. To whom, and how, is an application for access to the PNC made to PIAP?
5. What requirements do a non-police organisation have to meet in order for the PIAP to grant access to the PNC?
6. How many non-police organisations have been granted 'partial' access (the facility to read records only) to the PNC?
7. Please provide a list of these organisations.

NPCC Response:

The NPCC does not hold information captured by your request.

The NPCC has a legal obligation to try and advise and assist you further with your request; for more information on the legislation please see Annex A.

1. The NPCC does hold information captured by part one of your request. The NPCC confirms that PIAP considers applications only from non-police agencies or police forces / Law enforcement Agencies (LEA) that are outside of the 48 UK territorial / national police services (43 from England and Wales, Police Scotland, Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), British Transport Police (BTP), Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) and Ministry of Defence Police (MoDP)).
2. The NPCC does hold information captured by part two of your request. The NPCC confirms that PIAP considers applications only from non-police agencies or police forces / LEA that are outside of the 48 UK territorial / national police services (43 from E&W, Police Scotland, PSNI, BTP, CNC and MoDP).
3. The NPCC does hold information captured by part three of your request. The NPCC confirms that they hold PIAP Terms of Reference (ToR) that details the following as members for the panel:

1st Floor, 10 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NN T 020 7084 8950 F 020 7084 8951



- NPCC PNC Portfolio Holder (Chair)
- NPCC PNC Portfolio Chief of Staff (Vice Chair)
- Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)
- Police Scotland (PSoS)
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)
- ACRO Criminal Records Office
- PDS Information Assurance
- Home Office Enterprise Services (ES) PNC Operations

I wish to stress that the NPCC understands that the current ToR is under review.

4. The NPCC does hold information captured by part four of your request. On behalf of the NPCC, the application is received into the Home Office for onward circulation to NPCC PIAP Secretariat and presented to PIAP for review by the full panel.
5. The NPCC does hold information captured by part five of your request. Access will only be granted by PIAP if they are satisfied organisations granted access comply with appropriate access and control requirements. This is stated at section 1.2 of the current ToR.
6. The NPCC does hold information captured by part six of your request. There are 32 organisations with 'read only' access to the PNC.
7. The NPCC does hold information captured by part seven of your request and I have pleasure in providing a list of those organisations with minor redaction by virtue of S23 Information Supplied by or relation to Security Bodies.

For further information relating to the S23 exemption, please see Annex A.

Non Police Organisations who currently have read only access to Police National Computer (PNC) (read only access)	
01	Access Northern Ireland
02	Cabinet Office
03	Charities Commission for England & Wales
04	Children & Family Court Advisory & Support Service
05	Competition & Markets Authority
06	Criminal Cases Review Commission
07	Department for work Pension
08	Disclosure & Marring Service
09	Disclosure Scotland
10	Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency
11	DVLA

12	Environment Agency
13	Financial Conduct Authority
14	Food Standards Agency
15	Gangmaster & Labour Abuse Authority
16	Health & Safety Executive
17	HM Prison & Probation Service
18	Independent Office for Police Conduct
19	Insolvency Service
20	Jersey Customs & Immigration Service
21	Jersey Financial Services Commission
22	Marine Management Organisation
23	Medicines & Healthcare Regulatory Authority
24	National Air Traffic Services Ltd
25	National Health Services
26	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
27	Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
28	Trading Standards
29	UK Parliament
30	Welsh Parliament
31	*S23(1)*
32	*S23(1)*

Sherry Traquair

NPCC Freedom of Information Officer & Decision Maker

www.npcc.police.uk

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Internal Review

If you are dissatisfied with the response you have been provided with, in compliance with the Freedom of Information legislation, you can lodge a complaint with NPCC to have the decision reviewed within 20 working days of the date of this response. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone independent of the original decision, and a fresh response provided.

It would be helpful, if requesting a review, for you to articulate in detail the reasons you are not satisfied with this reply.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to NPCC Freedom of Information, c/o PO Box 481, Fareham, Hampshire, PO14 9FS.

If, after lodging a complaint with NPCC, you are still unhappy with the outcome, you may make an application to the Information Commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Annex A

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the NPCC, when refusing to provide information by way of exemption in question and (c) states why the exemption applies. In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a refusal notice to those aspects of your request.

Section 23(1) Information supplied by or relating to security bodies

- (1) Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it was directly or indirectly supplied to the public authority by, or relates to, any of the bodies specified in subsection (3).

Section 23 is an absolute exemption and there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.