

c/o PO BOX 481
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 9FS

Tel: 02380 478922

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

18/07/2022

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 228/2022

Thank you for your request for information regarding ACRO policy, which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

I've had a good look through your website and have searched forums etc. but I'm unclear on the following:

If a person has been arrested 20 years ago for s.5 public order (disorderly conduct) but the police decided 'No Further Action' at the time would this result in:

- (a) a 'No Trace' certificate (since there is no conviction or other finding of guilt to be 'spent'); or
- (b) a 'No Live Trace' certificate (since an arrest in itself, regardless of outcome, is listed in the 'step down' model).

I have heard conflicting information on this, with some people saying 'a' and other people 'b'. Is there a clear cut rule on this that ACRO criminal records office follows?

NPCC Response:

The NPCC does not hold recorded 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.

In wishing to assist you, outside of the Freedom of Information Act and a gesture of goodwill my colleagues have provided the following information from their own knowledge to answer your question:

'For any arrest information held on the PNC, for any offence where 'No Further Action' is listed as a disposal, a 'No Trace' Police Certificate would be issued if this was the sole entry.

If a record contained other information then a 'No Further Action' entry would not be present on a 'Trace' or 'No Live Trace' Police Certificate.'

Further information what on what ACRO disclose on a police certificate and when offences would step down can be found on the ACRO Step down model.



[Executive summary \(acro.police.uk\)](https://acro.police.uk)

Kind regards

Fiona Greenlees

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

Legislation – Section 16

- (1) It shall be the duty of a public authority to provide advice and assistance, so far as it would be reasonable to expect the authority to do so, to persons who propose to make, or have made, requests for information to it.