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26/10/2022

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 333/2022

Thank you for your request for information regarding criminal record sharing; which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

1. Does the UK share criminal record information to the US authorities through biometrics?
2. Can the US authorities see PNC records on UK citizens when they are scanned at US-VISIT stations at US border entries?
3. Do the US authorities often make requests for UK persons' criminal record information during an immigration application (for instance a Green-card?)
4. Does the UK routinely share any biometric information with the USA, without a request coming in from said country?
5. Does the UK share normal PNC information with the US?
6. Does the UK routinely share criminal record information with Five Eyes?

NPCC Response:

1. ACRO does hold recorded information captured by your request. Fingerprints are sent for confirmation of identity purposes.
2. ACRO does not hold recorded information captured by part 2 of your request.
3. ACRO does hold partially recorded information captured by your request. A Police Certificate is part of the initial requirement for Immigration to the USA which an applicant must apply for via ACRO. [ACRO Criminal Records Office - Police Certificates](#) ACRO produce the Police Certificate document, however, as the certificate is sent directly and not to any authority ACRO cannot with certainty confirm what each certificate is used for. In response to the specific question, the US authorities do not make any requests to ACRO's National Disclosures Unit directly, however they may request an applicant to do so for an immigration application.



4. ACRO does hold recorded information captured by your request. Fingerprints are sent for identity confirmation.
5. ACRO does hold recorded information captured by your request, insomuch as PNC information is shared. It is not understood by the wording of your request what you believe the word 'normal' to be deemed and an inference is taken to mean any routine/recorded information held on the PNC.
6. ACRO does hold recorded information captured by your request. Five Eyes are Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. ACRO does share recorded information with these countries.

Yours sincerely

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.