

**Dr. Kaihsu Tai**

By e-mail: [request-1277-32690583@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-1277-32690583@whatdotheyknow.com)

Our Reference: 42735

July 29<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Dear Dr. Kaihsu Tai,

I am writing with reference to your request for information regarding Offender index statistical breakdown, made under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, dated and received by the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008.

**You gave an initial background to your query as outlined below:**

*A publication by the Criminal Records Bureau "Employing ex-offenders: A practical guide" claims that the Home Office Offenders Index shows" that one in three men and almost one in ten women born in 1953 had been convicted of an offence before the age of 46."*

**On that basis you asked for the following information:**

- 1 How one could find the details of this piece of statistics from the Offenders Index; and*
- 2 How one could find the itemized breakdown by the type of offences in this piece of statistics.*

**Your decision to contact us was prompted by a similar request to the CRB as highlighted below:**

*(The response by the Criminal Records Bureau to an earlier request of mine to the stated that it does not hold the information.)*

### **Our Position**

The PNC does hold offenders information and date of birth information. However that data is not validated in as much as we have a date of birth for a name and alias date of birth. In other words we hold the data but we do not know if it accurate - it is just what is told to the Police at the point of custody or arrest.

I have been advised that the source of the statistics needs to be established and the questions put to them as they may have used data from the PNC. Also the offender's index is something that the Ministry of Justice (RDS) crunch putting our data into another database.

### **Your right to complain**

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously but, if you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to complain. We will investigate the matter and endeavour to reply within 3 – 6 weeks. You should write to:

Gavin McKinnon  
Head of Secretariat  
National Policing Improvement Agency  
10-18 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0NN

E-mail: [gavin.mckinnon@npia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gavin.mckinnon@npia.pnn.police.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner. Before considering your complaint, the Information Commissioner would normally expect you to have exhausted the complaints procedures provided by the NPIA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Compliance Team (complaints)  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Further information about the NPIA is routinely published on our website at [www.npia.police.uk](http://www.npia.police.uk) or through our publication scheme. If you require any further assistance in connection with this request please contact us at our address above.

Yours sincerely,

*Chike Chinukwue*

Chike Chinukwue  
Information Service Support Manager  
National Policing Improvement Agency