

RESOURCES DIRECTORATE

Information Compliance & Disclosure Section

Police Headquarters, Saunders Lane, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SB

Tel: 01772 413327 Fax: 01772 412123 Email: information@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

George Edwards

Via www.whatdotheyknow.com

Via email: request-133155-9a214fce@whatdotheyknow.com

08 November 2012

Dear Mr Edwards,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION REFERENCE NO: 4240/12

Thank you for your request for information received by Lancashire Constabulary on the 15th October 2012, which was as follows:-

Under the Freedom of Information request process I ask could you please give me details of children reported missing (still not found) in Blackpool since 1980 till present day.

Your request has now been considered and the information you are seeking can be found below:-

Data relating to missing from home reports is constantly being updated and therefore fluctuates regularly. The vast majority of persons reported missing to the force are located within 24 hours, or a couple of days at most. As at the date of your request, there were three active missing from home cases involving missing children from within the force's Western division (which covers the wider Blackpool area); however I can confirm that all three of these young people have now been located and are therefore no longer missing.

In terms of long term missing persons enquiries, there are two cases where children have been reported missing from within the force's Western division and whose whereabouts remain unknown despite the passage of a considerable amount of time. These are the cases of Charlene Downes, who was reported missing in 2003 at the age of 14, and Paige Chivers, who was reported missing in 2007 at the age of 15. Both individuals would now be adults, however in both cases these individuals are believed to have been murdered, and as such the missing persons enquiries are archived in deference to the continuing cold case murder investigations.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request an internal review of our decision, you should write to the Data Protection and Information Officer, Corporate Support and Information Services – Information Compliance & Disclosure Section, Police Headquarters, Saunders Lane, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SB or alternatively send an email to information@lancashire.pnn.police.uk. Details of the Constabulary's Freedom of Information Complaint Procedures can be found attached to this email.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner's Office cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Lancashire Constabulary. The

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Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Bryony Hopkinson
Freedom of Information Disclosure Officer

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