



Corporate Services  
Directorate  
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London SW1P 4DF

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[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

Mr Christopher Stacey  
request-239181-5f45914e@whatdotheyknow.com

12 December 2014

Case reference: CR33517

Dear Mr Stacey,

Thank you for your e-mail of 13 November in which you asked for up to date figures of the number of nominal criminal records on the Police National Computer (PNC) which include a criminal conviction. You mentioned it could be data which provides a breakdown of the current 'types' of nominal criminal records held with a particular focus on the differences between cautions and convictions. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Home Office is unable to provide you the specific data you requested on those nominals with a criminal conviction. The latest available figures, from 17 October 2014, indicate that of the 11,547,847 nominal records on PNC on that date, 10,520,929 of them contained a criminal record element and 1,026,918 did not. The total number of nominal criminal records held (10,520,929) includes not only those persons with convictions but also those with impending prosecutions, cautions, cases that require no further action and any other criminal justice activity on their record, e.g. arrested but not charged.

As this data is changing constantly, the Home Office has no business need to categorise PNC data in the way you have requested and this could only be achieved by writing new software which would be expensive.

The cost of confirming and meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The £600 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 24 hours of work per request. The cost of locating, retrieving and extracting information and preparing the response can be included in the costs for these purposes. The costs do not include considering whether any

information is exempt from disclosure, overheads such as heating or lighting, or items such as photocopying or postage. Unfortunately in this case, it is not possible for you to refine your request, due to the reasons explained above.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference 33517. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team  
Knowledge Information Management Unit  
Home Office  
3 Floor PEEL Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF  
e-mail: [info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info.access@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

S John  
Knowledge and Information Management Unit