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28/05/2020

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER: 0000122/20

Thank you for your request for information regarding a GRT Statement which has now been considered.

Applicant Question:

In a Guardian report it was stated: 'Janette McCormick, the GRT national police lead, said: "There is no evidence that links higher crime levels to Traveller sites'.

This flatly contradicted the claims of the programme offered by highly qualified statisticians. Please provide the basis for Ms McCormick's claim, including the origins of the data sets used to make this claim and the qualifications of the people who offered this analysis.

Was any attempt made to engage with the C4 programme makers to determine whether their data was valid?

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/02/truth-about-traveller-crime-channel-4-dispatches-show-accused-dehumanising>

NPCC Response:

The NPCC does not hold information captured by your request. The NPCC does not hold the origins of the data sets used within the programme, nor the qualifications of the people who offered the analysis. I have contacted DCC Janette McCormick, the NPCC GRT national policing lead, who has helpfully provided outside of the Act the following;

This year 2020 April the Home Office made 18+1, including Gypsy and Irish Traveller a classification for victims, staff, stop / search and offenders a requirement. Prior to that, other than local recording and analysis, there was no ability to compare ethnicity, location and crime at a national level.

The Programme as I understand would not disclose the data to the researcher who assisted the production or the Traveller movement so I am unclear the data used.

I have never seen any report that correlates crime with the location of traveller sites and the residents.



I have been national lead for 9 years and involved in a number of national reviews, including government reviews and no evidence of this has ever been presented.

Yours sincerely

Sherry Traquair
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.