West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

If your organisation has deployed *ten or fewer* tools in total (including those currently deployed, in development, being piloted or formerly developed or piloted but never deployed), please skip straight to the numbered requests below.

If your organisation has deployed and/or is developing (or has developed) *more* than ten tools in total, please respond to the numbered requests for the ten *most recently* deployed.

In particular, I have focused on three types of technology:

- Individual risk assessment tools
- Geospatial hotspot mapping tools
- Automated biometric analysis tools

FOR EACH RELEVANT TOOL (UP TO TEN IN TOTAL), CAN YOU PLEASE:

1. Supply the *name(s)* of each tool.

Please see below in relation to the geospatial item, that is in relation to tools used in MapInfo software only. Our data supplier cannot reply in relation to geospatial tools used in any other systems. For instance, Qlik.

Please note: Police forces use hot spot mapping to assist in analysis that then assist in decision making in relation to resource allocation and is standard policing.

The Geospatial Intelligence team does not use any predictive tools.

HS Gridder Simple Count Hotspot

2. Explain the *reason(s)* why your organisation decided to develop and/or deploy each tool, including the intended *policy purpose(s)* of the tool (e.g., to reduce criminal offending by aiming to improve the identification of potential victims of a criminal offence or to identify individuals 'of interest' to police, using the automated analysis of digital data).

To assist with reducing criminal offending by identifying areas where crime is most concentrated such that resources and activities can be directed there.

To identify concentrations of non police data sets, such as concentrations of houses.

3. Identify the data sources used as 'inputs' to the tool and indicate whether this data has been collected from internal police data sources (e.g., crime data), external public-sector data sources (e.g., data held by local authorities), or external data sources made available by private-sector organisations (e.g., mobile communications data). Please further indicate whether the tool is updated with new data on a manual basis, by a human user responsible for inputting data (including how frequently this usually occurs), or if it is updated on a real-time basis using an automated live data feed.

Police: any data with a grid reference for mapping, but mainly incidents, crime, and ASB Local Authorities: Data such as needle finds

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Other agencies: Ordnance Survey AddressBase

Source data is updated automatically and retrieved from those databases using data retrieval systems and input to the hotspot tool by a human on an as-required basis.

4. Identify the *output(s)* that each tool produces/produced in order to serve its intended policy purpose, and what these outputs are taken to *indicate or signify.* For example: an individual risk assessment tool may produce a 'risk classification' for each assessed person (e.g., 'high', 'medium' or 'low risk'). What is it, specifically, that each person is at 'high risk' or 'low risk' of, in this scenario (e.g., being arrested under suspicion of having committed a serious offence within the next two years)?

A hotspot map, usually of crime or ASB to indicate concentrations of crime or ASB. The tool shows low to high density of historical crime or ASB. This can be used to assist with the directing of resources and activities.

5. Indicate the kind(s) of *decision(s)* each tool supports/supported or triggers/triggered and about *whom or what*? For example: who to stop and search? Where to send police patrols? Should an arrested person be retained in police custody?

A hotspot map can be used, with additional analysis of the underlying data, to direct activities and resources.

6. Identify the *intended user(s)* of each tool. For example: does/did the tool provide information to a front-line officer on patrol, a duty officer in a custody suite, both, or someone else?

The hotspot tools are used by intelligence analysts to assist in their analysis and the hotspot and relevant analysis then may be used by police officers to assist in decision making and briefing.

7. Please indicate whether in relation to each tool, users receive any *training* about tool-use, indicating what that training consists (or consisted) of, who provides this training (including whether this is in-house or external), and who receives training.

The users of the hotspot tools are intelligence analysts. They receive internal training delivered by the Geospatial Intelligence team. This training is delivered after the analysts have received training about crime mapping and the mapping software used by WMP. Hotspot mapping training consists of an introduction to hotspot mapping theory, how the tool calculates hotspots, and then use of the tool itself.

8. Indicate the *date(s)* when each tool was first deployed (and when its use was ended, if applicable).

HS Gridder has been in use in the force since approximately 2008. Simple Count Hotspot has been in use in the force since approximately 2011.