

Ashley Russell

request-55355-db5ffbfd@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: FOI 162/10

20th January 2011

Dear Mr Russell,

I am writing with reference to your request for information regarding the Police National Database (PND), dated 19 December 2010, made under section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act.

You asked for the following information:

I am interested in find out the following information with regards to the Police National Database:

- 1) Are you using commercial products or is it being entirely developed in-house? If you are, could you name them?*
- 2) Could you provide any documentation with regards to the technical development of the Police National Database?*
- 3) Could you provide the database schema?*

On 4 January we sought further clarification regarding the technical documentation you wished to see. You responded:

By 'technical documentation' I am referring to any document created in the technical development of the database (perhaps a design document) and technical documentation relating to APIs or SDKs used for accessing the database.

I can confirm that the NPIA holds the information you have requested and the information that can be disclosed is included in this letter.

NPIA (headquarters)
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

T 0203 113 6000
www.npia.police.uk

1) Are you using commercial products or is it being entirely developed in-house? If you are, could you name them?

The contract for the design, build, delivery and operation of the Police National Database (PND) was let to Logica in April 2009. Logica is using commercial off-the-shelf packages including an Oracle database, using an Oracle middleware platform, running on Oracle hardware, a master data management system from IBM Initiate, and a Microsoft FAST search engine.

2) Could you provide any documentation with regard to the technical development of the Police National Database?

3) Could you provide the database schema?

Regarding the technical development documentation for the PND and the database schema, I can confirm that this information is held by the NPIA.

The Freedom of Information Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days so that the balance of public interest can be considered, although, a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case.

We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider where the public interest lies in respect of a request for exempt information. In this case, however, we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

We estimate that it will take an additional 20 days to reach a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by 17/02/2011. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

The specific exemptions which apply in relation to your request are:

Section 24 National Security

The information requested contains technical and security details which would increase the possibility of unauthorized intrusion, at a level where there is significant risk to counter terrorist intelligence or the denial of the PND service to the UK police forces.

Section 31 Law Enforcement

The information requested contains technical and security details which would increase the possibility of unauthorized intrusion at a level where there is significant risk to local and national police intelligence or denial of the PND service to one or more of the UK Police Forces.

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 20 working days. You should write to:

Anne Taylor
Head of Secretariat and Policing Portfolio Unit

C/O FOI Team
National Policing Improvement Agency
10th Floor (East),
New King's Beam House,
22 Upper Ground,
London,
SE1 9QY

E-mail: NPIAFOI.InternalReviews@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 NPJA is routinely published on our website at 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 below.

Andy Woodgate

Knowledge and Information Management Advisor

National Policing Improvement Agency