



12 March 2018

Mr Ryan Jarvis

Via email to:

[request-464375-1ae00aff@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

Dear Mr Jarvis

FOI reference 1667

Thank you for your request received on 13 February 2018 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I note your request for information was as follows:

Please can you provide the information for the following questions: -

1. How many DBS applications were made in England & Wales in 2017?
2. How many DBS Barred List Referrals did the DBS receive in 2017? How many of these requests ended up with the referral being investigated and if investigated how many of those referrals ended up with the individual being included on the Barred Lists?
3. How many individuals were added to the Barred List in 2017?
4. How many individuals were taken off the Barred Lists in 2017?
5. How many individuals were on the Barred Lists as of 1st January 2018?
6. What is the policy of the DBS when investigating and deciding on Barring Applications i.e. what information is accessed, shared, requested and obtained?
7. What is the policy for individuals wishing to appeal a Barring List Appeal? What forms are required to be completed and what legislation is relied upon?
8. Who is the Data Controller within the Disclosure and Barring Service? i.e. Name, Address, Telephone, Fax, Email. DX.
9. Is there a specific form which is required to be completed in order for a subject to request access to their data? If so please provide said form.

10. How many complaints were received by the DBS in 2017?

Response

1. For the year 2017, DBS received 4,199,439 applications for England and Wales.

2. Please find the table below providing the number of referrals DBS has received for 2017 including the number of cases considered and the number of cases closed with a barred decision.

	Received	*Cases Added/requiring full consideration	**Cases Closed Barred
All Barring Cases	596,687	25,350	3,502

*: A number of these cases are still to be categorised and may be 'sifted out'.

*Whilst individuals may have been referred to DBS for Barring consideration during this time period, it does not necessarily mean their case was concluded and/or a barring decision made during the same timeframe.

3. Please find the table below providing the number of individuals added to the Barred Lists.

Please note that the table covers the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 August 2017 (the last date for which figures are currently available):

Number Added to Children's List	2,620
Number Added to Adults' List	1,140

NB¹: An individual may be added to one or both Barred Lists

NB²: From 1 September 2017, the data is not currently available in the same format. The data once available is intended for future publication via our website.

4. Please find the table below providing the number of individuals that have been removed from the Barred Lists.

Please note that the table covers the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 August 2017 (the last date for which figures are currently available):

Number Removed from Children's List	118
Number Removed from Adults' List	90

NB¹: An individual may be removed from one or both Barred Lists.

NB²: From 1 September 2017, the data is not currently available in the same format. The data once available is intended for future publication via our website.

5. Please find the table below providing the number of individuals that were on the Barred Lists:

	December 2016	December 2017
Number on Adults' Barred List*	49,648	50,945
Number on Children's Barred List**	58,544	61,552
Total Number of Individuals on both Lists***	62,890	66,420

*Number on Adults' List – This represents the number of people who are currently included in the list of individuals barred from working with vulnerable adults'.

**Number on Children's List – This represents the number of people who are currently included in the list of individuals who are barred from working with children.

***Number on both lists – This represents the number of people who are currently included in one or both of the lists described above. Any individuals counted in this row are also counted in the row for each respective list, as an individual may be included in one or both of the barred lists. This is because when a referral is received an individual is considered for both lists.

Please note, subtracting the December 2016 figure from the December 2017 figure will not provide the number of individuals added to the Barred List(s). This is because individuals can be removed from the Barred List(s) for a number of reasons:

- *As a result of a review by the DBS;*
- *As a result of a successful appeal to the Upper Tribunal*
- *An individual is deceased; or*
- *Changes in legislation regarding Regulated Activity, result in a reduced scope of Regulated Activity.*

6. For more information about the DBS barring decision making process please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-referral-and-barring-decision-making-process>

7. For more information about the Appeals process please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-barring-appeals>

8. Under our Data Protection registration with the Information Commissioner's Office the Data Controller is defined as DBS there is no single individual named or role specified.

9. I have attached the Subject Access request form as requested.

10. DBS has received 2,903 complaints during the year 2017.

Your right to request an internal review under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are dissatisfied with our response or our handling of your FOI request, you may request an internal review by e-mailing dbsfoi@dbs.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to Freedom of Information Manager, Disclosure and Barring Service, PO Box 165, L69 3JD. You should submit any request for review within two months of the date of this letter.

In all possible circumstances, the Disclosure and Barring Service will aim to respond to your request for review within 20 working days and in any case no longer than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot

make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.org.uk.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

DBS FOI Team

E dbsfoi@dbs.gsi.gov.uk