



## **Freedom of Information request ref 311-15**

**I have witnessed first-hand that officers of the BTP sometimes take photographs from social media sites such as Facebook and use them on BTP systems (for example a person in custody who is too aggressive to be photographed may have a photograph from their Facebook account used as their custody record photograph).**

**- What is BTP policy on the use of images from 'the internet' as a replacement for images taken by BTP staff/officers?**

**- What exemption from the Copyrights, Designs and Patents act |(or other relevant legislation) do you employ which permits you to use an image to which the copyright lies not with the BTP and for which permission to use has not been provided by the rights holder?**

## **RESPONSE**

No Information held.

British Transport Police would not use such images as official police images. The use of a social media photo would not be lawful or permissible in court proceedings as formal identification and would be challenged by a solicitor.