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20th February 2019

Our Ref: FOI2019/00287

By email only to: griff.ferris@bigbrotherwatch.org.uk

Dear Griff Ferris

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2019/00287

I write in connection with your request for information received on 11th January. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. Is your force currently collecting digital information from devices belonging to complainants of sexual offences? For reference, "collecting digital information" in this context should be taken to mean and include any form of examination, access, extraction, copying or download of such digital information from digital devices, whether by self-service kiosks (SSKs), other device extraction software, or by external digital forensic examiners.**
- 2. Does your force currently have any digital devices awaiting examination? If yes, please provide details of:**
 - i. The number of devices currently awaiting examination.**
 - ii. the average wait time for a digital device to be examined.**
- 3. Does your force seek consent from complainants of sexual offences for the collection and/or disclosure of their personal information from their digital device or a third party organisation such as medical records, counselling records, local authority records or educational records?**
- 4. Has your force disclosed any digital information collected from digital devices belonging to complainants of sexual offences to the Crown Prosecution Service or the defendants' legal representatives?**

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

Following enquiries within the Constabulary please see our response below.

Response

Q1 – Yes

Q2 – Yes

Q2i – Hertfordshire Constabulary's Digital Forensic Investigation Unit have 60 exhibits awaiting examination, 76 exhibits on hold awaiting detail from OIC and 322 exhibits that have been approved by DFIU awaiting delivery.

Q2ii – Mobile Devices – 3 weeks. Computer examinations – 10 months

Q3 – Yes

Q4 - Yes

The numerical data presented in this response is an un-audited snapshot of un-published data sourced from "live" systems and is subject to the interpretation of the original request by the individual extracting the data.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

James Hodson
Information Rights

Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Hertfordshire Constabulary if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.