



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2015-00127

Keyword: Organisational Information/Governance

Subject: Child Abuse Image Database

Request and Answer:

This request relates to the introduction in your force of the Child Abuse Image Database or CAID. Please could you provide answers to the following questions,

Question 1

Does your force intend to purchase and install CAID?

Answer

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

The CAID project board anticipates that all forces will be connecting to the CAID with charging letters having already been sent to Chief Officers. Seven forces have already connected to the CAID and it is anticipated that the PSNI will connect during this calendar year. A rollout plan to connect all remaining forces is currently being developed by the CAID project management team, but as of yet the PSNI connection date cannot be confirmed.

Question 2

When do you expect CAID to become operational in your force area?

Answer

Seven forces are already connected to the CAID (Norfolk, Suffolk, Met, West Yorkshire, Cheshire, Lancashire and Avon and Somerset). Dates for the PSNI to connect are yet to be confirmed with the planning being developed by the project management team.

Question 3

What are the total start up costs of CAID (includes initial capital and service costs)?

Answer

The costs for physically connecting to the CAID will vary according to the existing infrastructure within each force. The PSNI will not be in a position to confirm their connection costs at this early stage but hardware costs of £45,000 are anticipated.

The initial costs to PSNI for CAID will be £49,500. This represents a full cost recovery of all project management costs for 2014/15 and 2015/16 (£2,277,000) to be collected in the 2015/16 financial year and divided between all 46 connecting forces.

At this point in time the known service costs for the year 2016/17 are £810,402 which will be divided amongst all partner organisations (£17,618 for the PSNI).

This figure will only change due to the Disaster Recovery solution currently being agreed with law enforcement. Charges to forces for the following year 2016/17 will be notified by October 2015 but forces have been advised to set aside £20-25k which would include a Disaster Recovery solution. The total cost of the project as a whole over three years (excluding connection costs) is £3.3million (not including any additional costs for disaster recovery hardware/hosting).

Question 4

What do you anticipate will be the annual running costs of CAID year on year?

Answer

As mentioned above, the cost to the PSNI for the first two years will be £49.5k (£24.75k pa) with a reduced figure in year three. The CAID business case has projected savings to policing of £7.474 million by March 2017 through reduction of the time that officers will spend grading images.

Question 5

Does your force/will your force have a dedicated Victim Identification officer assigned to CAID?

Answer

As part of the training programme running alongside the introduction of the CAID, the College of Policing in conjunction with NCA - CEOP is providing victim identification training to representatives from each police force. Appropriate learning standards will be embedded into various existing courses with a full set of learning standards and training products available to Forces on the managed learning environment (NCALT MLE). The PSNI will be licensed to deliver the training against these standards and will decide what level of resourcing they wish to dedicate towards victim identification thereafter.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psni.police.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.