



LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE

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Officer Dealing:
Mr. C. Knowles

8 May 2006

Ms. Price
GeneWatch UK
The Mill House
Manchester Road
Tideswell
Buxton
Derbyshire
SK17 8LN

Dear Ms Price

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO:
F-2006-00621**

I write in connection with your request for information, which was received by Lincolnshire Police on 22 March 2006. I note you seek access to the following information:

- ***For the application made by David McDowell, of LGC Ltd, to access profile data (held by the profiling supplier), please provide***
- ***a) a copy of the papers supplied to the Board to describe the project,***
- ***b) the minutes of the discussion of the project by the Board,***
- ***c) the grounds on which it made its decision.***

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Lincolnshire Police.

Result Of Searches

The searches located a number of records relevant to your request, which I have combined into 1 document for you, together with a number of emails

Decision

I have today decided to disclose the located information to you in full. However, I have exempted personal information from these emails.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Lincolnshire Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption applicable is Section 40 of the Act – personal information. This is an absolute exemption. This information is exempt because disclosing the information would breach the First Data Protection Principle of fairly and lawfully collecting the information and the Second Data Protection Principle of using the information for a purpose, which is not compatible with the purpose for which the information was collected.

Please find attached document and emails.

Complaint rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Lincolnshire Police.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact me on the above telephone number quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely



Mr C. Knowles
Force Data Protection Officer

Lincolnshire Police provides you with the right to request a re-examination of your case under its review procedure (copy enclosed). If you decide to request a review and having followed the full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Document 1

This request follows on from a previous request

For the application made by David McDowell, og LGC Ltd, to access profile data (held by the profiling supplier), please provide

- a) a copy of the papers supplied to the Board to describe the project,
- b) the minutes of the discussion of the project by the Board,
- c) the grounds on which it made its decision.

Reply – please see attached redacted email exchange

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[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 08 September 2004 13:49
To: [Redacted]
Cc: 'David McDowell'; Guinness, Miss J
Subject: RE: LGC query

[Redacted]

Agree that the retention of demographics alongside subject DNA profiles is not something new - indeed it was the norm before the PNC link. However, as things develop, I see increasing sensitivity over demographics being retained. The trend has to do with the increasing size of the Database, that fact that it now holds arrestees, acquittals etc. Also, the increasing interest in the NDNAD from a genetics and DPA standpoint. Because of this, my (and I think [Redacted] preference would be to move to a position whereby suppliers only indexed samples by barcode and ASN - with no subject demographics being on the DNA card. We touched on this at a recent DNA Ops Group, and I think most suppliers [Redacted] agreed that we should go this way. Obviously for this to be practical, we need to get to a situation where we have far more assurance over the integrity of the ASN and barcode than we do at present (i.e. hardly any stub-related load failures!). However, moves such as bar code scannable ASN's will help.

For now I am content that David's work can proceed as specified. Have copied in June, so that she can record this in our Custodian files.

Kind regards

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 02 September 2004 09:24
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: LGC query

[Redacted]

Many thanks for the prompt reply. I have checked with our LIMS team and the DNA profiles and demographics cannot be viewed at the same time but all the information is on LIMS. So we do in effect have a mini-database. I am a bit confused about this issue of non- retention of demographics, as until Arrest summons numbers became compulsory, we were required to submit demographics with the profiles to the NDNADB.

Customers have asked us to retain demographic to assist them in their administrative processes. In addition some forces have given us permission to destroy DNA1 forms provided we retained an electronic form of the data.

I asked our LIMS team whether, if asked, we could destroy the demographic data. The answer was yes but all this information would still be visible in the destruction audit trail.

I am not sure what process the other suppliers follow but perhaps this is an item we could discuss at the next Suppliers meeting? In the meantime I would be grateful if you could please advise on the best practice we should adopt. May I also clarify whether [Redacted] can proceed with his statistical search of the LGC profiles? Many thanks.

With kind regards,

[Redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 01 September 2004 16:16
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: LGC query

[REDACTED]

David did call last week to explain the work he proposes to carry out. As I understood it, we want to check the possible value in partial crime scene profiles by searching them against your accumulated CJ profile data.

This raised the issue of suppliers having sets of retained DNA profiles. Suppliers do, of course, need to retain DNA profiles of samples they have analysed for quality management purposes. However, from an NDNAD Board/Custodian (and Data Protection Act) perspective, it is important that there are no demographics linked to these retained profiles. Otherwise, suppliers would effectively be building up sub-sets of the NDNAD.

Hope this helps to clarify.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 September 2004 15:23
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: LGC query

[REDACTED]

Hello. Hope things are well with you. Settled into my secondment [REDACTED] but still very much in touch with DNA Forensics at LGC. I understand [REDACTED] rang you last week to discuss the possibility of doing some statistical analysis on the CJ DNA profiles we have generated over the last 6 years. I believe that there was some concern expressed that LGC had a Database of profiles and demographics. As [REDACTED] is not familiar with the set up he asked if I could get in touch and discuss and clarify matters with you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Please Note

The Forensic Science Service has now changed its email domain from fss.org.uk to fss.pnn.police.uk
The sender's email address has changed. Please update your records

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09/09/2004

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