



Under the Freedom of Information Act please answer the following:		
REQUEST	RESPONSE	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
1) What practical procedure/s does your force have in place to ensure the review and or deletion of custody images after 6 years?	No information held.	<p>Merseyside Police has no formal or specific policy / procedure of the type described. The Force follows guidance laid down by the College of Policing, which can be found online at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/information-management/management-of-police-information/retention-review-and-disposal-of-police-information/#request-for-deletion">https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/information-management/management-of-police-information/retention-review-and-disposal-of-police-information/#request-for-deletion</a></p> <p>However, the Force has not initiated any scheduled reviews of custody images, and the only deletions made have been those applied for by individuals.</p>
2) If there is a procedure in place, how many images have been deleted as the result of a periodic review (rather than following an individual's application for deletion)?	Not applicable – see response to Question 1, above.	

3) How many images on your custody image database are of unconvicted persons?	Information exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 12 states that information need not be disclosed if the cost of locating / retrieving that information exceeds £450, or 18 hours based on a cost of £25 per hour.	<p>The images are stored on the custody system, however this does not record all court disposals.</p> <p>Conviction information is generated and owned by HM Courts &amp; Tribunals Service, not the police. Although the police have access to such information, it is not automatically retrievable from Force systems and retrieval would therefore require manual checks on each individual nominal record on a system such as the Police National Computer.</p> <p>Given the many thousands of individual checks that would be required, completion of such an exercise would greatly exceed the 18-hour time/cost limit prescribed by Section 12 FOI Act.</p>
4) Since February 2017, how much has your force spent on the deletion of custody images of unconvicted people?	No information held.	<p>As stated above, the only deletions that have taken place are those that have been applied for by an individual.</p> <p>The review process for each application forms part of routine duties for the relevant staff and is not separately timed or costed. To attempt to extrapolate the time spent specifically working on custody image deletions would not only be an extremely time-consuming exercise, it would involve the creation of new information specifically to answer a Freedom of Information request, which is not a requirement under the terms of the Act.</p>

Police forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to requestors of information. The systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons this Force's response to your questions should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you may receive.