

## **How do I request the removal of DNA/fingerprints and other police information?**

Information held by the police service is retained in accordance with legislation and national guidance. In limited circumstances, individuals are entitled to request the removal of police held information prior to the defined retention periods. However, this will only be undertaken in exceptional circumstances. These circumstances are:

- if there was no crime,
- it was a malicious/ false allegation,
- there was a proven alibi,
- the disposal was incorrect,
- the suspects status was not clear at the time of the arrest,
- there has been a judicial recommendation,
- another person has been convicted of the offence or
- it is in the wider public interest.

The final decision on this will be based on the Chief Officers professional judgment based on the information available.

With regards to the removal of DNA, Fingerprints and PNC record, please refer to -

[https://www.acro.police.uk/Early\\_Deletion\\_of\\_Biometric\\_Information.aspx](https://www.acro.police.uk/Early_Deletion_of_Biometric_Information.aspx) which outlines the legal position on retention and when samples can be requested for early deletion, if it does not fall into the legal criteria for removal.

Information held on local Police systems is governed by the Code of Practice on the Management of Police Information (2005) (MoPI). A request submitted through the above process should trigger a Force review under MoPI which will determine if the local record is also deleted.