CIVIL NUCLEAR CONSTABULARY

The Executive Office
Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Building F6 Culham Science Centre
Abingdon
Oxon
OX14 3DB
Tel: 03303 135400
Website: https://www.gov.uk/cnc

5 December 2025

Dear Requester

I am writing in response to your request for information regarding the below**.** Your request has been handled under Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In accordance with Section 1(1) (a) of the Act I hereby confirm that the CNC/CNPA does not hold information of the specified type. CNC does not use AI in any of the ways mentioned. We do not deal with crime reporting. This is the remit of home office forces. The answer to your questions is therefore NIL.

Your Request:
I am investigating how AI-assisted evidence analysis is documented and reported within existing Chain of Custody (CoC) and Audit Trail (AT) structures.

For the sake of clarity, I have included a glossary at the end of this document. CoC is used here as an umbrella term encompassing related concepts such as continuity, chain of evidence, and provenance; while AT refers to any documentation system that captures and records the forensic processing of evidence.

List of Questions
1. Does your police force deploy Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems in areas including investigation, intelligence, operations, case management, or evidence processing?

If yes, please provide:

I. The names of the tools, underlying technology, software versions, and primary use cases.
II. Whether each tool is internally developed or procured from third-party providers.
III. The name of the providers and a copy of any related contract documents.
IV. The current status of each tool (in trial/pilot stage, under evaluation, or fully deployed).
V. Whether each AI tool is embedded in any forensic platform(s), or whether it operates as a separate, standalone system for specific tasks.

REQUEST 2:

2. Does your police force use Natural Language Processing (NLP), including Large Language Models (LLMs), Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR), or other AI technologies for processing and analysing forensic audio and textual evidence, (covering tasks including transcription, speaker diarisation, translation, summarisation, redaction, document generation, or form-filling)?

If yes, please provide:

I. The names of the tools, underlying technology, software versions, and primary use cases.
II. Whether each tool is internally developed or procured from third-party providers.
III. The name of the providers and a copy of any related contract documents.
IV. The current status of each tool (in trial/pilot stage, under evaluation, or fully deployed).
V. Whether each AI tool is embedded in any forensic platform(s), or whether it operates as a separate, standalone system for specific tasks.

REQUEST 3:
3. Does your force have any specific policies, or protocols governing the use of AI tools in processing and analysing forensic audio and textual evidence, or other forms of evidence?
Please attach or reference any documents related to this.

REQUEST 4:

4. Is the chain of custody (CoC) and/or audit trail (AT) recorded when digital evidence, broadly speaking, are processed and analysed?
If yes, please provide:
I. Details of the information that is recorded (e.g., evidence identifiers, date/time of transfers, personnel identifiers, storage/access logs, integrity checks)
II. Details of any technical or procedural methods used to record or track the CoC and/or AT. Kindly specify if the process is automated, manual, or hybrid.
III. Please indicate whether any verification or validation procedures are in place to confirm that digital evidence, upon acquisition, is a genuine and unmodified record rather than a synthetically generated or manipulated.
IV. Any guidelines, practice directions, or policies guiding the documentation of CoC and/or AT for digital evidence, including any templates or forms. Kindly attach or reference related documents.
V. Has your force conducted any internal evaluations or comparisons regarding the efficiency, accuracy or reliability of automated, manual, or hybrid reporting methods? If yes, please provide copies or references.
VI. Is the maintenance of a CoC and/or AT managed in-house or outsourced?
a. If in-house, provide details of the responsible role(s) or department(s), including any training materials or internal guidance relevant to this task.
b. If outsourced, please provide the name of the provider(s), a description of their role, and any related contract document(s).

REQUEST 5:
5. Is the chain of custody (CoC) and/or audit trail (AT) recorded when AI systems are used in processing and analysing forensic audio and textual data, or other forms of evidence?
If yes, please provide:
I. Details of the information that is recorded, which may include but is not limited to: identifier of the evidence, details of the AI model (e.g., version, provider), verified error rates, and identification of human oversight (if applicable).
II. Please indicate whether any paradata is captured during the processing of digital evidence. By paradata, I refer to information generated as a by-product of human interaction with the AI systems during evidence processing (e.g. prompts, edit history, data discards, interaction logs, correction logs, reviewer annotations, parameter adjustments, iterations).

III. Details of any technical or procedural methods used to document CoC and/or AT of AI-assisted evidence analysis, including any templates or forms. Kindly specify if the process is automated, manual, or hybrid.
IV. Has your force conducted any internal evaluations or comparisons regarding the efficiency, accuracy, or reliability of automated, manual, or hybrid reporting methods? If yes, please provide copies or references.
V. Any guidelines or practice directions guiding the documentation of CoC and/or AT specific to AI-assisted evidence analysis. Kindly attach or reference related documents.
VI. Is the maintenance of a CoC and/or AT managed in-house or outsourced?
a. If in-house, provide details of the responsible role(s) or department(s), including any training materials or internal guidance relevant to this task.
b. If outsourced, please provide the name of the provider(s), a description of their role, and any related contract document(s).

REQUEST 6:
6. Are human reviewers involved in reviewing, correcting, or contributing to the outputs generated by the AI systems in processing and analysing forensic audio and textual evidence?

If yes:
I. What is the formal description of the role(s), and what specific responsibilities do individuals in these roles carry out?
II. What training materials or internal guidance are provided to support these roles?
III. How is human contribution tracked and distinguished?
IV. Are records maintained for the different versions of outputs produced during the human-AI collaborative process?

REQUEST 7:
7. How is evidential disclosure managed in criminal proceedings where AI systems are used in processing and analysing forensic audio, textual data, or other forms of evidence?

I. Please specify the nature of materials disclosed to defence teams (e.g. final transcript only or detailed version history; original audio; AI model metadata etc?
II. Are the documentations of CoC and/or AT disclosed to the defence

team? If yes, in what format is this made available?
III. Is there a standard procedure or checklist governing this? If so, please provide a copy or reference it.

REQUEST 8:
8. Has your force conducted any evaluations or assessments regarding the effectiveness of AI systems for evidence processing, including audio, textual, or other forms of evidence?
If yes, please provide copies of these documents or reports.

Glossary
*** Artificial Intelligence (AI): This refers to a machine that learns, generalises, or infers meaning from input, thereby reproducing or surpassing human performance. The term AI can also be used loosely to describe a machine's ability to perform repetitive tasks without guidance.**
*** Audit Trail (AT): Refers to the documentation processes that capture, record, and report the sequence of actions applied to digital evidence. An AT may include details such as model configurations, parameters used, error rates, human interventions, and system-generated logs. It functions as a transparency mechanism, enabling the reconstruction and evaluation of how evidence has been processed, analysed, and interpreted.**
*** Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR): A subfield of AI that processes spoken human language (audio) and converts it into written text, useful for tasks like transcription and speaker diarisation.**
*** Chain of Custody (CoC): This is the record of how evidence is handled from the point of collection through processing to presentation in court. This may include the identity of the person handling the evidence, date/time of transfer, storage details, and digital identifiers. Alternative terms include 'continuity', 'chain of evidence' and 'provenance'.**
*** Forensic Audio evidence: This refers to recorded sound collected, preserved, and analysed for legal or investigative purposes. This often includes spoken language from sources including body-worn cameras, dashcams, police radio communications, and interview or interrogation recordings.**
*** Forensic Textual evidence: This refers to written or encoded content, stored or transmitted in digital form, collected, preserved, and analysed for legal or investigative purposes. It includes unstructured human language (e.g., transcripts, emails, chat logs, social media posts), semi-structured data (e.g., system or network logs, ASR outputs), and structured data (e.g., metadata, timestamps).**

*** Large Language Models (LLMs): A type of Natural Language Processing (NLP) system trained on vast amounts of text to perform sophisticated language tasks like summarisation, translation, or text generation.**
*** Natural Language Processing (NLP): A subfield of AI focused on the interaction between computers and human (natural) language. It involves programming computers to process, analyse, understand, and generate human language. It is useful for tasks like translation, document generation, summarisation and redaction.**
*** Paradata: This refers to information generated as a by-product of human interaction with AI systems during evidence processing. This includes prompts, edit histories, data discards, interaction logs, correction logs, reviewer annotations, parameter adjustments, and iterative outputs. Such records provide traceable documentation of how humans and AI jointly contribute to outputs, supporting transparency and accountability in evidential practice.**

CNC Response:

The CNC/CNPA does not hold information of the specified type. CNC does not use AI in any of the ways mentioned. We do not deal with crime reporting. This is the remit of home office forces. The answer to your questions is therefore NIL.

Context:

The Civil Nuclear Constabulary is a specialist armed police service dedicated to the civil nuclear industry, with Operational Policing Units based at 10 civil nuclear sites in England and Scotland and over 1600 police officers and staff. The Constabulary headquarters is at Culham in Oxfordshire. The civil nuclear industry forms part of the UK's critical national infrastructure and the role of the Constabulary contributes to the overall framework of national security.

The purpose of the Constabulary is to protect licensed civil nuclear sites and to safeguard nuclear material in transit. The Constabulary works in partnership with the appropriate Home Office Police Force or Police Scotland at each site. Policing services required at each site are agreed with nuclear operators in accordance with the Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 2003 and ratified by the UK regulator, the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). Armed policing services are required at most civil nuclear sites in the United Kingdom. The majority of officers in the Constabulary are Authorised Firearms Officers.

The Constabulary is recognised by the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) and the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS). Through the National Coordinated Policing Protocol, the Constabulary has established memorandums of understanding with the local police forces at all 10 Operational Policing Units. Mutual support and assistance enable the Constabulary to maintain focus on its core role.

We take our responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act seriously. If you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. We will investigate the matter and aim to reply within three to six weeks. You should write, in the first instance, to:

Jo Sawley
Disclosures Officer
CNC
Culham Science Centre
Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX14 3DB

E-mail: FOI@cnc.pnn.police.uk

If you are still dissatisfied following our internal review, you have the right, under section 50 of the Act, to complain directly to the Information Commissioner. Before considering your complaint, the Information Commissioner would expect you to have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by the CNPA.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

FOI Compliance Team (complaints)
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If you require any further assistance in connection with this request, please contact us using the details provided above.

Yours sincerely

Jo Sawley

Disclosures Officer