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Our ref: 01/FOI/26/050893/G

Dear Philip Swift,

**Freedom of Information Request Reference No: 01/FOI/26/050893/G**

I write in connection with your request for information which was received by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) on 23/02/2026. I note you seek access to the following information:

*(...) To narrow the point further, my query is not concerned with DVLA transmission mechanics or comparisons with other forces. It relates solely to the Metropolitan Police's internal workflow once a Lost or Stolen (LoS) marker is placed on PNC.*

*I understand that LoS markers must be confirmed before remaining active on the system and before being reflected externally.*

*For clarity, I am not seeking individual records or datasets. I am simply seeking to understand process oversight.*

*Could you please confirm:*

- Whether the PNC system generates reminder or cancellation notifications where a LoS marker remains unconfirmed (for example at set intervals such as 2, 4 or 6 weeks);*
- Whether such notifications, if generated, are monitored or reviewed centrally within the MPS (for example by the PNC Bureau or another unit);*
- Whether the MPS maintains any aggregate oversight of LoS markers cancelled due to non-confirmation.*

*Given the scale of the discrepancy previously identified, I am keen to understand whether any reconciliation or assurance process exists within the MPS to monitor confirmation and cancellation patterns.*

*Any clarification of process would be appreciated.*

## **SEARCHES TO LOCATE INFORMATION**

To locate the information relevant to your request searches were conducted with MO12 – MetCC (Metcall), MO2 – Met Intelligence (HQ – Operations) and the MPS PNC Liaison (Referencing & Vetting). These searches located information relevant to your questions.

## **DECISION**

I have decided to disclose the information held that answers your questions. For elements where the MPS does not hold recorded information, this is stated below.

## **DISCLOSURE**

### **1) Do PNC reminders/cancellation notifications exist for unconfirmed LoS?**

Yes. The PNC Manual confirms that “notification of imminent weeding is sent to forces owning reports four weeks prior to the normal expiry date.” It also sets out the weeding process for LoS/Found records (including that LoS is 6 weeks unconfirmed, 6 years once confirmed; LoS/FOU pairs are weeded 6 weeks after pairing). In addition, Home Office PNC Services produce a DAF VE602 weeding-reminder report for vehicle LoS, which the MPS receives and retains.

### **2) Are such notifications monitored/reviewed centrally within the MPS?**

Not held. The MPS PNC Liaison confirms there is no MPS SOP/instruction allocating responsibility to centrally review or act on DAF VE602. (MO12 and MO2 have also confirmed they do not own PNC marker SOPs/oversight.)

### **3) Does the MPS maintain aggregate oversight of LoS cancelled due to non-confirmation?**

Not held. The MPS PNC Liaison confirms the MPS does not hold management information reporting counts of vehicle LoS records cancelled for non-confirmation. He notes PNC Services could potentially run a report, but that would be a national product and is not held by the MPS.

## **SECTION 16 – ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE**

For national system-level outputs (e.g. bespoke counts of LoS cancelled for non-confirmation) you may wish to approach Home Office PNC Services, who own the DAF VE602 and the national weeding-reminder mechanism. The MPS does not hold those national management reports.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter, please contact me using the email or postal addresses at the top of this document, quoting the reference number for this request.

Yours sincerely,

**Peter – Z912677**  
**Data Rights**

## **COMPLAINT RIGHTS**

**Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?**

You have the right to require the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint, you are welcome to discuss the response with the case officer who dealt with your request.

### **Complaint**

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of the MPS made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) regarding access to information you can lodge a complaint with the MPS to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing, within forty (40) working days from the date of the refusal notice, and addressed to:

FOI Complaint  
Data Rights  
PO Box 313  
Sidcup  
DA15 0HH  
[DataRights@met.police.uk](mailto:DataRights@met.police.uk)

In all possible circumstances the MPS will aim to respond to your complaint within 20 working days.

### **The Information Commissioner**

After lodging a complaint with the MPS if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you may make application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk). Alternatively, write to or phone:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Phone: 0303 123 1113