

FAMILIAL DNA SEARCHING POLICY

1.0 Policy Statement

1.1 British Transport Police (BTP) will ensure that it conducts Familial searches (searches of the National DNA Database (NDNAD) to identify potential close relatives of an offender) on an intelligence led basis only for serious crimes. This will be done where previous searches on the NDNAD for an individual has not provided any matches. All ethical and human rights concerns will be considered prior to searches and where necessary mass screenings will be carried out before conducting Familial searches.

2.0 Overview

2.1 This is a new policy.

2.2 This policy stems from the following documents and legislation: Police Standards Unit Tactical Advice on using Familial DNA Intelligence Products in Serious Crime Investigation (May 2006), ACPO DNA Good Practice Guide 2005, the FSS-ACPO Familial Searching Policy and Guidance for Senior Investigating Officers, and the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996.

2.3 This policy applies to all BTP staff.

2.4 This policy applies in England and Wales only.

3.0 Applicable Date, Monitoring and Review

3.1 This policy is applicable from 29 August 2006.

3.2 This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.



British
Transport
Police

Not Protectively Marked
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4.0 Ownership

4.1 This policy is owned by ACC Crime.

4.2 Any queries related to this policy should be directed to Scientific Support Unit.

5.0 Associated Documents

5.1 BTP Familial DNA Searches Standard Operating Procedures

5.2 DNA Sampling and Retention BTP Policy

5.3 Forensic Collection and Submissions BTP Policy