



Freedom of Information request ref 01/FOI/25/3489
We received your request on the 01/07/2025.

Request

You asked us:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting the force's policy on the issue of custody photos of convicts.

Specifically:

- 1) Are custody photos published on the force's web site? Do they remain there indefinitely?**
- 2) Are there restrictions on who custody photos are made available to? Can any member of the public request them? Can press organisations?**
- 3) What criteria are used in determining the release/publication of a custody photo of a person charged with/convicted of an offence? Is there a minimum sentence length requirement for photo publication? Please include every requirement in your response.**

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Our response:

1. Yes, however, there is a three-month expiry date is applied to any court results which are published on the website, so that photographs do not remain online for extended periods of time.
2. Custody images are only issued to media organisations.
3. Custody images are only released to the media when a convicted person receives a custodial sentence. This does not include suspended sentences, unless the person has been convicted of a sexual offence and/or there is a Prevention Order in place to which the public should be alerted.

You may find these links useful:

[Annex B: DRAFT Media Protocol User Guide | The Crown Prosecution Service](#)
[Media relations | College of Policing](#)