

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from West Midlands Police. For the purposes of clarity, please take 'facial recognition' to mean any automated means of comparing a live or retrospective image against a database to discern potential identity, and 'trial' to mean any use on the public or internally for testing purposes. Please may you provide me with:

- 1. Deployment information relating to ongoing or planned trials of live or retrospective facial recognition technology within your force area (such as number of trials, brief overview of such trials, scope and cost) during the period of 01/01/2020 to present day.**

No information held. WMP has no ongoing or planned trials in relation to the overt use of live or retrospective facial recognition technology for the date ranges specified.

- 2. Any information relating to ongoing or planned trials of similar technology which uses automated computer vision to analyse images for biometric identification purposes (such as ear recognition, vein recognition, or gait recognition)**

No information held in relation to the overt use of machine/computer vision technologies as they are not leveraged to analyse images for biometric identification purposes.

In addition, the force can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information in relation to covert usage or trials as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 23(5) Information supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies

Section 24(2) – National security

Section 31(3) – Law enforcement

Please see covering letter and PIT for further details.

- 3. If any trials of either 1 or 2 have been carried out, please confirm number of arrests made, number of stop and searches made, number of stop and accounts made, or number of fines/other enforcement resulting from these trials.**

Not applicable.

In addition, the force can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information in relation to covert usage or trials as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 23(5) Information supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies

Section 24(2) – National security

Section 31(3) – Law enforcement

Please see covering letter and PIT for further details.

- 4. A copy of any internal policy documents or internal guidance for the development, use, or deployment of these technologies**

Not applicable.

In addition, the force can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information in relation to covert usage or trials as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 23(5) Information supplied by, or concerning, certain Security Bodies
Section 24(2) – National security
Section 31(3) – Law enforcement

Please see covering letter and PIT for further details.