West Midlands Police Freedom of Information

Can you please tell me when you started using each of the following Digital Forensic processes and forms DPNa, DPNb and DPNc? The date will be fine for this.

Our Forensic Services Department have advised the following: DPNa approximately 6 months ago, DPNb and DPNc they are just starting to do this.

Can you include a blank copy of each of these forms? Some forces may customise them.

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested is available on the following website:

Police update notice for permission to search for relevant information on digital devices (npcc.police.uk) we use this national form with West Midlands Police logo.

Can you include any information notices given to victims, witnesses and or suspects in regards to these forms?

This is discussed individually with the victim by the investigator along with the guidance on the DPN notice. The DPNa is completed by the OIC with the device user and then submitted to an inspector for them to review and authorise. The DPNa is then provided to the DFU/Kiosk user to ensure they comply with it. DFU keep copies of the DPNa in their case notes and officers are required to keep copies in their case files.

Can you please supply (if possible) any appropriately redacted officer guidance for completing and or submitting these types of forms to the unit dealing with them? There has been some basic national guidance published online by the Government, however you as a force might have produced a supplementary document to support the completion of forms DPNa, DPNb and DPNc by Police Officer's and Police Staff.

We do not have a supplementary guidance document for DPNs in West Midlands Police. The DPNs contain guidance within themselves.