



**HM CPSI**

HM Crown Prosecution  
Service Inspectorate

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15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

In your request you asked for the following information

*Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could I request the following information:*

*1) Please list the services that require the general public to verify their identity by sending in physical forms of documentation (e.g. a passport)?*

*1a) For each of these services, how many identities were verified in this way in your 2019/20 financial year, and what did it cost to process?*

*1b) Are these verifications performed by a third party or conducted by an in-house team?*

*2) Please list the services that allow users to use a digital method for proving their identity; and name the methods used (e.g. Gov.UK Verify or other equivalent digital biometric identity method)?*

*2a) For each of these services, how many identities were verified in this way in your 2019/20 financial year, and what did it cost to process?*

*By 'identity verification' I mean the same definition used by Government which is 'a digital identity is information used by computer systems to represent a unique person, organisation, application or device. So for a citizen or consumer, a "digital identity" is a trusted way of proving one or more attributes about themselves online or offline and the linkage of those attributes to that same person as a uniquely identifiable individual.'*

In relation to all the above questions 1 to 2a) – we do not hold information in the scope for this request.

The statutory role of HMCPSI is to inspect and report on the operation of the Crown Prosecution Service and the Serious Fraud Office. Contact with the public is minimal and the issue of verification does not arise.

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of our response to your request, please send full details within two calendar months of the date of this email and send to the below email address:

[info@HMCPSI.gov.uk](mailto:info@HMCPSI.gov.uk)

You also have the right to ask the Information Commissioner to investigate any aspect of your complaint. Please note that the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is likely to expect the internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning an investigation.