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HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate
7th Floor, Tower
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9GL

T: 020 4574 3218

<http://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmcpsi/>

Email only

16th February 2026

Dear

FOI Request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information dated 12th February. In your request you asked for the following information.

1. *Please confirm whether departmental policy, contractual terms or internal procedures require an explicit outcome based warranty or guarantee confirming that personal data has been rendered irretrievable through software based erasure, whether carried out internally or by an external provider.*
2. *Where software based data destruction is performed internally, what recorded evidential assurance does the department rely upon to conclude that the final data state is irretrievable?*
3. *Where software based data destruction is performed by a third party provider, does the department hold recorded information demonstrating that any warranty or assurance provided explicitly extends to the software erasure method used and its claimed effectiveness? If so, please confirm the recorded nature of that verification.*
4. *Where no explicit outcome based warranty is required or provided, what recorded form of evidential assurance does the department rely upon to conclude that software based erasure has rendered personal data irretrievable?*

I am not requesting technical configuration detail, security sensitive information or supplier specific vulnerabilities. I am seeking confirmation of the assurance model relied upon for software based data destruction.

I can confirm that HMCPsi does not hold information in the scope of this request.

HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate is a small government department of less than 30 staff. As such, we have a number of shared services with other government departments. We have a shared service for our IT with another government department.

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

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.

Yours sincerely

Carmel Vega
HM Crown Prosecution Inspectorate