

Action 19: Information Assets Dashboard - Brief

The Information Assets Dashboard has been developed to drive improvements in the quality of data uploaded to the PND and PNC in readiness for migration to LEDS. This will help to (a) raise the profile of data quality and the associated risks, (b) create a framework for compliance and (c) create an ongoing mechanism for accountability and improvement. Phase one of the dashboard will be focusing on the PND, work is ongoing to develop an equivalent for the PNC.

The dashboard will be in three sections:

- Assessment of how the PND is being used – no of searches, reason for the search (encouraging a more operational focus), use of facial image searches, triggered, scheduled and bulk searches
- The IAD will (at a glance) highlight to forces (and any other uploading organisation) those areas of risk against six data quality dimensions:

Accuracy

Is the degree to which data correctly reflects the object – e.g. incorrect person names or addresses

Completeness

This is defined as expected comprehensiveness – data can be complete even if optional data is missing – as long as data meets the expectations then the data is considered complete – the importance in a policing context for people is the relationship a person has to be event will determine the expected comprehensiveness.

Conformity

Means the data is following a set standard of definitions – date of birth an example.

Duplication

Sometimes known as uniqueness – key issue for policing is duplicate persons which impacts on our ability to understand risk if we are not looking at a complete record of what we hold

Integrity

This relates to the validity of data across all relationships and ensures that all data in a database can be traced and connected – orphan records an example – this is directly linked to duplication as poor integrity can introduce duplication

Timeliness

Sometimes known as currency – is information available when it is expected and needed – striving for “today’s intelligence today to be available nationally tomorrow”

- Technical profile of a forces upload pattern and history – one of the issues with data on the PND is the inconsistency in upload – it is hoped that the dashboard will prompt forces to re consider upload decisions made some time ago.

The benefits of IAD

The key to policing data is the management of risk – this could be the level of risk that an individual poses to the community, the identification of vulnerability or the understanding of demand on a person and location basis. Poor data will make the assessment of risk more difficult and will compromise both operational and compliance effectiveness.

By providing forces with a robust assessment of their data we can challenge what is uploaded and provide reassurance to users of LEDS and ensure that (as far as possible) the service complies with its legislative and regulatory obligations. This will include the following key issues:

- Improvements in the accuracy of special category data (known as sensitive personal data).
- Clear profiled, understanding of the quality and proportionality of data held
- Flagging orphan/redundant records i.e. no clear purpose for holding information
- Clear accountability at a national and local level for data quality
- Greater connectivity of data (better matching success)
- Greater connectivity of data (better data management capabilities locally)
- Greater exploitation of data – easier to see the value in data when not full of poor quality data
- Data held only for a policing purpose and avoiding the “just in case” scenario
- Improvements in the reliability of data – greater confidence by users
- Better understanding of the purpose for which data is collected
- Greater consistency across the service in the use of enhanced PND functionality – in order to improve its use in readiness for LEDS
- Greater consistency in upload of data – an opportune time to consider an upload standard
- Support the development of data standards
- Greater engagement with suppliers in support of DQ improvements
- Performance tool for possible use by HMICFRS in any PEEL inspection regime