

Protection of Children Outside of the UK Investigation – Phase Two
Rule 9 Request for a written statement – Hertfordshire Constabulary

Introduction

I am Assistant Chief Constable 1774 William Jephson. I am the ACC for Local Policing in Hertfordshire; included in my portfolio are the specialist safeguarding teams who investigate offences committed against children and manage the Registered Sex Offenders. I am familiar with the range of Civil Orders that exist to protect children and I am familiar with Section 72 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 concerning sexual offences committed outside the United Kingdom. I have written this statement as the Chief Officer with overarching responsibility in relation to the questions asked by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

I have been asked to provide additional detail regarding the below.

Hertfordshire have not used S72 orders, however, since 2015 twenty seven S72 orders are shown within VISOR for Hertfordshire. These have transferred on a subject's VISOR record following their relocation to Hertfordshire. Following the request for information the Constabulary will now undertake a review of the use of S72 to satisfy ourselves that appropriate training is provided to staff.

I can confirm as above Hertfordshire Constabulary has not used S72 to prosecute offences committed outside of the United Kingdom from 2015 to current date.

I confirm that the 27 S72 orders referenced above are foreign convictions notified to Hertfordshire via other agencies pertaining to an individual in our policing area. These individuals have been convicted in a foreign country. On receipt of such notification our legal services have applied under S97 Sexual Offences Act to have these individuals placed under United Kingdom notification requirements and to be placed on the Registered Sex Offenders register for the relevant period, as if the offence was committed and sentenced in this country. This enables Hertfordshire Constabulary to appropriately manage the risk posed.

They have been recorded on VISOR as S72, this will be rectified to show them as S97. Of these 27 individuals, 15 currently remain on VISOR as residing in Hertfordshire and 12 are archived records which are ACRO owned.

Signed:

DPA

William Jephson

Assistant Chief Constable