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1. Introduction

The Prüm Treaty, signed in 2005, is a law enforcement treaty aimed at enhancing cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and serious cross-border crime, by facilitating the exchange of information, including biometric data like DNA and fingerprints, among participating EU member states.

These guidance notes are intended to be used as a supplement to assist in the production of an MG22A Forensic Information Report, such that identifications from any UK Fingerprint Bureaux can be reported in consistent manner to all UKLEAs.

Furthermore, detailed information can be found within the Home Office Prüm FP Guidance document.

Matches as a result of a Prüm Search will always be reported as intelligence on an MG22A

2. Prüm Searching

2.1 Crime Scene Data

Prüm crime scene data searches should be performed as forces and/or bureau practitioners see fit and as part of your Bureaux own documented procedures. A decision must be made by the relevant force IOs/SIOs/SPOCs and bureau practitioners whether to perform Prüm FP searches.

The requesting of a search allocation is performed via an Automated Gatekeeper application managed by the NCA. The Automated Gatekeeper displays a running total of the availability of searches and staff can request search authorisation for IDENT1 searches using this application.

Bureaux practitioners should be mindful of low quota countries (e.g. Belgium, France, etc.). For such countries, give priority to urgent cases and not to routine type speculative searches.

Tip! For low quota countries consider launching non-priority searches close to the end of the day if quotas are still available.

2.2 Outcomes

Unidentified:

If no identifications are established following a search against a EUMS AFIS, this can be reported using your Bureaux standard reporting mechanisms.

Identified:

If an identification is established following a search against a EUMS AFIS, a Prüm Step 1 Identification verification should be completed. This will then allow the NCA to provide the Bureaux with the Step 2 data (including the Tenprint set of the identified person). Once these have been received, the identification can be processed and reported.

See 2.6 Speculative searches below

2.3 Subject Profiles

LEA fingerprint bureaux (and the LEA Prüm contact) will receive the EUMS Subject Data Profile along with any retention rules specified by the sending Member State.

Fingerprint Bureaux can use the EUMS subject fingerprint record to compare to fingerprint images relating to the offence the hit relates to. The EUMS fingerprint record should also be used to speculatively search against UK

fingerprint databases they have access to for law enforcement purposes – IDENT1, IABS, or CT databases – to establish if the person has a fingerprint record in the UK at that point in time or is linked to other scenes of crime.

2.4 EUMS subject fingerprint records cannot currently be loaded into the IDENT1 Unified Tenprint Collection.

Once the required fingerprint search and comparisons are complete fingerprint bureaux will report matches to the investigating officer. Note: the subject is unlikely to have a record on PNC and IDENT1 so the nominal information provided in the EUMS Subject data Profile is referenced.

For reporting, see 2.3 Speculative searches below.

2.5 Retention

For as long as the data is required within the UK for the investigation or prevention of crime it can be retained and used according to UK law and processes.

Once the data has served its purpose the data must be deleted.

2.6 Speculative Searches

Speculative searches refer to the scenario where a ten print search is run against UKLE fingerprint databases, following a Step 2 Prüm DNA response that contains fingerprint images.

The intelligence package that is received from a EUMS after a Prüm DNA match has been made and the intelligence has been applied for, may contain fingerprint images. The Forensic Information Databases Service (FINDS) policy (FINDS-P-073) states that the subject ten-print record shared by the EUMS can be used to compare against any finger mark images that relate to the offence under investigation in the UK. Additionally, as per policy, fingerprint images should be used to speculative search against IDENT1 and IABS.

The JICC Prüm team will send out a Step 2 Prüm DNA email containing the intelligence package that is received from the relevant EUMS. Recipients are the Step 2 requestors – investigating officers with a legitimate Policing interest in the subject of the match – and copied in are also the relevant fingerprint bureau practitioners to undertake the above searches.

The purpose of a speculative search is to establish if a person has a fingerprint record in the UK and at the point of arrest, this person may have given different nominal details that are known by the Member State. Moreover, the individual can be identified against unidentified marks taken from any UK crime scene.

2.7 Reporting

When a positive result is obtained (e.g. a match against a hit of an unidentified crime mark, an IDENT1 ten-print record or an IABS record) the fingerprint bureau will need to complete an MG22A Forensic Information Report, also referred to as 'Intelligence Lead' and send to relevant recipient(s).

If the IDENT1 subject match or the mark is owned within the force, please forward the MG22A report to the relevant officer in the case. If the mark was identified outside of your force, please forward the MG22A report to that specific force. Finally, if the mark is an IABS record, please forward the MG22A report to an officer with the relevant contact details for the immigration department to obtain more information.

Please always copy in the JICC Prüm team (jiccprum@nca.gov.uk) to allow follow up with the relevant force and to ensure actions have been taken.

Please be aware. Results shared are for **intelligence only purpose**. They are an evidential lead to pursue, not to be used for judicial proceedings.

Please find a copy of the MG22A Forensic Information Report [here](#).

3. How to fill in an MG22A report

Field	Explanation
FORENSIC INFORMATION REPORT – [INSERT DISCIPLINE]	Add the relevant discipline (e.g. Fingerprint)
Relates to (person):	Add the name supplied in the Step 2 email. It is the name of the person associated to the subject match in a particular country.
Crime/Occ. No:	Relates to the original subject match case in the Step 2 email. This could be an operational name if a crime reference is not provided.
Location:	Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.
Force Forensic Ref:	This is a reference number generated by the NCA and it is included in the Step 2 email. It starts with CP- (e.g. CP-xxxxxxxx-24).
Date of Offence/Incident:	Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.
Forensic Provider Ref:	Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.
Other Ref 1:	Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.
Other Ref 2:	Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.
Report provided by:	Add the details of the person compiling the MG22A report.
Organisation:	The name of the organisation the person compiling the report belongs to.
Date of report:	Date of when the report is filled in.
Annexes Included with this Report:	Please add 'none', if this field is not relevant.

Information / Findings / Result / Strategy	
CRO Match	<p>We have received the Ten-print fingerprint record of the subject associated with this DNA match and they have been searched against UK fingerprint databases.</p> <p>IDENT1 reports a match against the following record: PNC Name + CRO xxxxx/24x</p> <p>For further information, please contact the [organisation] at [relevant mailbox or phone number]</p>

Example MG22A



OFFICIAL (SENSITIVE WHEN COMPLETE)

This is not a witness statement

Streamlined Forensic Reporting (SFR)		MG22A	
FORENSIC INFORMATION REPORT – [INSERT DISCIPLINE]			
Relates to (person):	<i>Add the name supplied in the Step 2 email. It's the name of the person associated to the subject match in a particular country.</i>	Crime/Occ. No:	<i>Relates to the original subject match case in the Step 2 email. This could be an operational name if a crime reference is not provided.</i>
Location:	<i>Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.</i>	Force Forensic Ref:	<i>Reference number generated by the NCA and included in Step 2 email, e.g. CP-xxxxxxxxxx-25.</i>
Date of Offence/Incident:	<i>Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.</i>	Forensic Provider Ref:	<i>Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.</i>
Other Ref 1:	<i>Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.</i>	Other Ref 2:	<i>Please add 'not applicable', if this field is not relevant.</i>
Report provided by:	<i>Details of the person compiling the MG22A report.</i>	Organisation:	<i>Name of the organisation the person reporting, belongs to.</i>
Date of report:	<i>Date of when the report is filled in..</i>	Annexes Included with this Report:	Choose from List
[Information / Findings / Result / Strategy] (Delete as necessary)			
Evidence Type Supporting / Technical Information			
Accreditation Declaration <i>[Insert your accredited entity] is a UKAS accredited [testing laboratory/inspection body] No #####.</i>			
Declaration of Compliance with the Code of Practice published by the Statutory Forensic Science Regulator <i>(Insert appropriate declaration – Refer to FSR Guidance: Declarations of Compliance and Non-Compliance with the Code of Practice FSR-GUI-0001)</i>			
To the Investigator <p>This Forensic Information Report is provided to the investigator and contains information based on a forensic assessment or examination of the crime scene and/or exhibit(s). It can be used to support decisions on lines of enquiry.</p> <p>If further forensic assessment or examination is required, the investigator should contact the relevant Force Forensic Department in accordance with standard force operating procedures.</p>			