

04 February 2025

REFERENCE: FOI25\10

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information dated 23 January 2025 and detailed below:

“Is there any conclusive or forensic proof held by the Department showing these images / videos are genuine deepfakes.

“Should no such information be held, please confirm this in your response.

“I would be grateful if you could address this request with the urgency and thoroughness it deserves, given the potential impact on both the MLA’s reputation and public understanding of cybercrime.”

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives you two rights of access when you write to us asking for information. You have the right to know whether we hold recorded information falling in scope of your request, and you have the right to receive this recorded information subject to cost limit or exemption.

In relation to the information you have requested, please be advised that the Department does not hold any recorded information in scope of your request. You may wish to note that the Department has no role in the investigation of crime, which is an operational matter for the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter. If you request an internal review please do so in writing stating the reasons to the address above.

If following an internal review you were to remain dissatisfied you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask the Commissioner to investigate whether the DOJ has complied with the terms of the FOIA. You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Further details on the role of the Information Commissioner can be found at:

www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

DoJ Records & Information Manager