



Response Date: 27/03/2026

2026/327 - Mobile-device digital evidence in cold-case investigations

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

1. Policies or Procedures for Archiving Mobile-Device Evidence

We do not hold a specific policy/procedure for Archiving Mobile-Device Evidence.

Data extractions are predominately stored as a case files which would be made up of the following:

Extraction
Processed Data
Reports

The original device is retained until the end of the case, but this is case specific.

2. Storage Methods and Formats

Please provide any recorded information describing:

Case Files are archived currently to LTO or Optical media dependant on cases file sizes, we also have an ongoing cloud storage project underway to start moving archive data to the cloud.

3. Reviews or Re-Examinations of Archived Mobile-Device Evidence

Re-examination/access of data is recorded as part of the data restoration process.

4. Access to Older or Legacy Formats

NWP DFU manages a software library of legacy software using Microsoft SCCM, however the digital forensic vendor generally also holds a back catalogue of software.

5. SOPs for Reviewing Archived Evidence

We do not hold a SOP specifically for review of cold case or legacy data extraction.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 26/03/2026

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