

FOIA Request
National Crime Agency
Units 1 - 6 Citadel Place,
Tinworth Street,
London SE11 5EF

25 November 2024

Dear Mr. Biggar,

I am writing to request information under the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**.

We refer to the recently-published National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2024. It has come to my attention that this National Strategic Risk Assessment makes many bold claims on the illicit use of cryptocurrency and the endangerment of children through end-to-end encryption, but that the assessment fundamentally lacks concrete data and disclosure of methodologies applied to come to the presented conclusions.

I would like to request the following information. Please provide this to freddie@bitcoinpolicy.uk within the next 20 working days:

- Data evaluated and methodologies applied to come to the conclusion that "cryptoassets are increasingly used to launder non-digital proceeds of crime"
- Data evaluated and methodologies applied to come to the conclusion that illicit funds are "typically held in cryptocurrency"
- Data evaluated and methodologies applied to come to the conclusion that "as the popularity of cryptocurrency grows, so too does the frequency of cryptocurrency crime"
- Data evaluated and methodologies applied resulting in the estimate of 1.7 Billion – 5.1 Billion GBP in "illicit cryptocurrency transactions" linked to the UK annually
- Data evaluated and methodologies applied to estimate that "the deployment of end-to-end encryption on popular social media platforms will undermine agreed Safety by Design principles"
- Data evaluated and methodologies applied to estimate that end-to-end encryption "will reduce the number of industry reports disseminated by the NCA to police each year by as much as 92% for all of Facebook and 85% for all of Instagram".

I would prefer to receive the information electronically if possible. Please feel free to contact me at freddie@bitcoinpolicy.uk or 07866 511214 if you require clarification regarding my request.

I understand that under the Act, I am entitled to a response within 20 working days. If you are unable to comply with my request, please provide a detailed explanation for the refusal, citing any applicable exemptions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Freddie New
Co-Founder and Head of Policy, Bitcoin Policy UK