

Our Ref: 2017-136

Date: November 2017

Subject: Searches

This request asked:

The total number of searches carried out by the Proceeds of Crime Division (POCD) in order to gather evidence for a Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) investigation

The total number of searches carried out by the Serious Fraud Office, not including the POCD at the investigation stage, for the purposes of gathering evidence

Please provide the data for each of the last five years.

The figures below show the number of searches carried out by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) over the last five complete financial years. Please note that the SFO only conducts searches when our investigations require them. It is therefore entirely normal for the volume of searches to fluctuate from year to year, particularly as our case load is composed of a small number of large cases which can sometimes take a number of years to reach a conclusion.

Number of searched carried out by POCD

Year	Number of searches executed
2012-2013	21
2013-2014	27
2014-2015	0
2015-2016	4
2016-2017	8

Number of searches carried out by the SFO (excluding POCD)*

Year	Number of searches executed
2012-2013	7
2013-2014	23
2014-2015	15
2015-2016	13
2016-2017	9

*Please be aware that the figures in the second table covering the time periods 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 have been restated from figures provided in previous data sets due to records being added or identified retrospectively.



SFO

serious
fraud
office