

# Requesting Information from Police

## Policy

<b>Document title</b>	Requesting Information from Police	Version 2.0
<b>Contact details</b>	Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities Operational Policy <a href="mailto:tfhc.policy@nt.gov.au">tfhc.policy@nt.gov.au</a>	
<b>Approved by</b>	Executive Leadership Board	
<b>Date approved</b>	24/02/2022	
<b>Document review</b>	24 months from date of approval	
<b>TRM number</b>	61:F2021/1397	

Version	Active from	Author	Changes made
1.0	16/03/2015	Operational Policy	Provides guidance on when to seek information from Police.
1.01	21/07/2017	Operational Policy	Rebranded and fixed links.
2.0	4/03/2022	Operational Policy	Updated information to align with legislative reform regarding access to information.

Acronyms	Full form
Department	Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities
Practitioner	Refers to the Child Protection Case Manager
the Act	Care and Protection of Children Act 2007

# Contents

1. Policy Statement .....	4
2. Legislative Basis.....	4

## 1. Policy Statement

A collaborative working relationship and exchange of information will ensure a coordinated response between the Northern Territory Police and the Department.

Part 5.1A of the Act empowers the Northern Territory Police and the Department to share information for the safety and wellbeing of children.

Information exchange will take place only when necessary to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children.

Consultation between the Practitioner and their Team Leader must take place, at any stage of work, before a request for information to the Police is made.

Consideration should be given to:

- the information that has already been obtained from the Police in previous investigations or inquiries by the Central Intake Team;
- what information can be gathered from direct discussions with the child, family, naturally connected network and persons involved in the case; and
- the reasons for the request and what the information, once known, will assist to determine.

All requests to the Police must:

- be made on the Northern Territory Police Request for Information Form ;
- specify the date and time the requested information must be provided; and
- specify the reason information is needed pursuant to the section of the Act the request is made:
  - the inquiring officer has concerns about the child's wellbeing (s34 of the Act); or
  - to determine whether the child is in need of protection (s38 of the Act); or
  - for the purpose of monitoring the wellbeing of the child (s83B of the Act); or
  - for the purpose of an investigation under section 84A of the Act.

## 2. Legislative Basis

[Care and Protection of Children Act 2007](#)