

Title: Reclosure Panel		THE
Date: Thursday 27 March 2025	Time: 15:00-16:00	NATIONAL
	Location: Meeting Room 21C	ARCHIVES
Attendees		
Lucy Fletcher (LF)		
Apologies		
		Linda Stewart (LS)

Minutes

1. Actions from previous meeting (held on 30 January 2025):

- 1.1. COAL 77/1063 - At the Panel meeting held in January 2025, full closure under s40 (2) was not agreed for this file. Previously, the Panel had asked that the case handler recheck the file to determine whether redacted release possible and if s41 (1) also applies.

Since then, the handler re-asserted that the file should remain closed in full as most of the file contains sensitive information including full names and salaries. Such is the extent of the personal information, that it would not be practical to redact. The file has been viewed 4 times by public. Section 41(1) does *not* apply.

The Panel Agreed that the record should be closed in full for 83 years until 2066.

- 1.2. DEFE 13/3204 - At the Panel meeting held in January 2025, a redacted opening under S40(2) & 41(1) was proposed. The Panel queried whether these were the most appropriate exemptions and asked that further consultation take place with the relevant stakeholder.

The stakeholder has since replied, asserting that the information should be redacted under sections 40 (2) and 41 (1).

The Panel agreed to redact accordingly. Closed extract to be closed for 50 years until 2049.

- 1.3. PREM 19/2546 - Reclosure report queried whether additional redactions were necessary to the open parent piece. December 2024 Panel asked that the relevant stakeholder be consulted.

The relevant stakeholder has since replied and is content for the file to remain open without further redactions.

The Panel agreed that the parent piece can remain open without further redactions.

- 1.4. T 640/1097 - Recommended redacted opening under s40 (2). Panel suggested the relevant

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stakeholder be consulted for advice as the subject matter experts

Case ongoing, follow up with stakeholder – Carry over to the next Panel.

- 1.5. T 640/378: Recommended full closure under s27 (1)(a)(c)(d). Panel asked that the relevant stakeholder be consulted for advice, as the subject matter experts.

Case ongoing, follow up with stakeholder – carry over to the next Panel.

- 1.6 ASSI 36/629 & ASSI 52/2005: discrepancies in closure periods with related files DPP 2/4550 & 4826

Case ongoing – carry over to the next Panel

2. Cases

- 2.1. ASSI 52/1650 - Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 100 years until 2067.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.2. ASSI 6/330 – Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 89 years until 2055

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.3. Reclosure Report(s) BN 29 & BN 62 (*11 Records*)

2.3.1. BN 29/2296 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 90 years until 2060.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.2. BN 29/2614 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 86 years until 2060.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.3. BN 29/2615 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 90 years until 2064.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.4. BN 29/2778 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 93 years until 2064.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.5. BN 29/2787 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 100 years until 2071.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.6. BN 29/2789 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 100 years until 2071.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.7. BN 29/2802 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 98 years until 2069.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.8. BN 29/2811 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 98 years until 2069.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.9. BN 29/2861- Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 100 years until 2069.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.10. BN 62/3130 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 98 years until 2060.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.3.11. BN 62/194 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 86 years until 2043.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.4. BN 62/2171 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 90 years until 2058.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.5. Reclosure Report(s) CRIM 1/2952, CRIM 1/5032 & MEPO 2/11145 (3 records).

2.5.1. CRIM 1/2952 – Recommendation: redacted open under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 83 years until 2042.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.5.2. CRIM 1/5032 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) for 60 years until 2030.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.5.3. MEPO 2/11145 – Recommendation: redacted open under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 72 years until 2042.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.6. Reclosure Report(s): CRIM 1/4897, J 82/1155 & MEPO 2/11366-11369 (6 records)

2.6.1. CRIM 1/4897 – Recommendation: Full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 93 years until 2063.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.6.2 J 82/1155 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 59 years until 2030.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.6.3. MEPO 2/11366 – Recommendation: Full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 92 years until 2063.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.6.4. MEPO 2/11367 – Recommendation: Full closure under s40 (2) for 83 years until 2053

Recommendation Agreed.

2.6.5. MEPO 2/11368 – Recommendation: full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2053

Recommendation Agreed.

2.6.6. MEPO 2/11369 – Recommendation: full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2053

Recommendation Agreed.

2.7. DPP 2/1985 – Recommendation: Full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 84 years until 2035.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.8. Reclosure Report(s): CRIM 1/5306, DPP 2/4598 & 4668-4670 (5 records).

2.8.1 CRIM 1/5306 – Recommendation: Full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2057.

Not agreed – the Panel noted the historical merit of these files, alongside the sensitivities contained within. The use of open extracts was discussed, to make available the non-sensitive information. There is not much information in the public domain about these cases, but these files had been frequently viewed by the public. The files contain some information relating to criminal offence data. One of the files in question (DPP 2/4670) has been recommended to be opened with redactions. See below for the recommendation and outcome for each record.

2.8.2 DPP 2/4598 – Recommendation: Full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2058

Decision – Case handler to explore open extract and report to next Panel – see above.

2.8.3. DPP 2/4668 – Recommendation: Full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2057.

Decision – Case handler to explore open extract and report to next Panel – see above.

2.8.4 DPP 2/4669 – Recommendation: Full closure under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2055.

Decision – Case handler to explore open extract and report to next Panel – see above.

2.8.5. DPP 2/4670 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s40 (2) for 84 years until 2056.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.9. FO 700/109 – Recommendation: Redacted open under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 97 years until 2047.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.10. HO 144/22459 – Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(b) & 40 (2) for 86 years until 2032.

The Panel noted that redaction was considered and deemed not feasible. The relevant stakeholders were consulted and also agree on full closure - Recommendation Agreed.

2.11. J 297/268 – Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 100 years until 2076.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.12. J 82/2119 – Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 98 years until 2071.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.13. J 82/2893 – Recommendation: full closure under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 76 years until 2051.

Recommendation Agreed, and further action discussed – The file title was also raised as a potential matter for the Takedown Panel, however it was decided that, as the victim may be assumed deceased, the description did not require removal.

2.14. J 82/3430 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) for 69 years until 2046.

Recommendation Agreed

2.15. PCOM 9/2071 – Recommendation: redacted open under s38 (1)(a) & 40 (2) for 84 years until 2043.

Recommendation Agreed.

2.16. T 319/1831 – Recommendation: full closure under sections 23/24 'in the alternative' for 60 years until 2034.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.17. T 380/868 – Recommendation: redacted open under s37 (1)(a) for 48 years until 2028.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.18. T 498/24 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) for 70 years until 2071.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.19. T 573/20 – Recommendation: redacted open under s37 (1)(a) for 40 years until 2028.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.20. T 624/179 – Recommendation: redacted open under s23 (1) for 50 years until 2040.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.21. T 624/53 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) & 41 (1) for 82 years until 2067.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.22. T 624/56 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) for 82 years until 2067.

Recommendation Agreed.

- 2.23. T 694/217 – Recommendation: redacted open under s40 (2) for 44 years until 2049.

Recommendation Agreed.

3. Virtual Reclosure¹

The Panel noted that the eight records on the Virtual Schedule that had previously been 'Access under Review' were now closed following FOI requests, having been through the complete FOI process.

- 3.1. AST 36/1568
- 3.2. DPP 2/2423
- 3.3. HO 416/163
- 3.4. J 267/1049
- 3.5. J 267/545
- 3.6. J 267/546
- 3.7. J 82/3202
- 3.8. MEPO 2/9535

¹ 'Virtual' reclosure occurs where a Freedom of Information request is received for a record held at The National Archives which has the status of 'access under review'. The review of these records is conducted through the standard FOI process, which includes consultation with the transferring department and (if a qualified exemption applies), the Advisory Council for National Records and Archives (ACRNA) and the Secretary of State for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

4. Records returned to open access

A schedule of 9 records that have been reviewed by the FOI Team and are to revert to open status was presented to the Panel for their information. These records previously had an 'access under review' status and were found not to contain any sensitive information.

- 4.1. BN 62/2167
- 4.2. HO 405/4184
- 4.3. PCOM 9/647
- 4.4. T 225/4409
- 4.5. T 380/1380
- 4.6. T 432/546
- 4.7. T 492/423
- 4.8. T 518/28
- 4.9. T 533/29

5. Any Other Business

- 5.1. Access Under Review Rolling agenda – Data on AUR records at TNA, records reviewed so far this year, as well as those to be reviewed by the FOI Centre were provided.

Action – To provide AUR data to each Reclosure meeting for monitoring

- 5.2. [REDACTED]
- 5.3. [REDACTED]
- 5.4. [REDACTED]
- 5.5. New Reclosure report template shared with Panel.

6. Date of next meeting – 29th May 2025