

Forensic evidence: DNA Database

In 2005, the Commission published a Report on the [Establishment of a DNA Database](#) (LRC 78-2005), which followed its Consultation Paper on the [Establishment of a DNA Database](#) (LRC CP 29-2004). This arose from a request in 2003 by the Attorney General to consider the issue. In making its recommendations, the Commission took account of the broad and complex constitutional and human rights issues that may arise; and secondly, the more specific question of what classes of DNA profiles would make up any database. The Report recommended the establishment of a limited DNA Database, in which profiles of those reasonably suspected of, and convicted of, serious crimes (including homicides, most offences against the person and burglary) would be retained on the DNA database. The Report also recommended that the purposes of the DNA database should be stated in the primary legislation establishing it. The Report also addresses the issue of who should regulate and maintain the DNA Database, recommending that an independent Forensic Science Agency be established for this purpose. A draft *DNA Database Bill* was attached to the Report.