

CPIA 1996 Explained: Why Logging Intel = Investigation in Law

The Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 (CPIA) is the law that governs how police must handle evidence and information in criminal cases.

The key point is simple: once police record or keep information about something that could be a crime, an investigation already exists in law – even if the police say otherwise.

1. What the Law Says

- The CPIA has a Code of Practice (2015) which police must follow.
- It defines an 'investigation' as looking into whether someone should be charged with a crime.
- If the police log or keep information about possible criminal behaviour, that counts as an investigation.

2. What Police Must Do

Once police have logged information about potential crime, they must:

- Record it properly,
- Keep (retain) it safely,
- Share it (disclose) if it is relevant to a case.

These duties apply automatically. The police don't get to choose whether they follow them.

3. Why This Matters

- During Operation Talla, many complaints about COVID-19 vaccines and government misconduct were treated as 'intel' not 'crime.'
- But the moment those complaints were logged, CPIA duties applied anyway.
- That means police forces may have created hundreds of investigations in law without admitting it.

4. The Big Problem

Because the police didn't follow CPIA rules after logging this 'intel,' they may already be in breach of the law. They can't now say: 'we never investigated' – because the law says the act of logging information was the start of an investigation.

5. Conclusion

This is huge.

It means that many UK police forces are already legally compromised. By ignoring CPIA duties, they may have

perverted justice on a national scale. **The law is clear:
logging intel = investigation in law.**

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20th August 2025