| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2143  Responded to: xx October 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## To begin with, I should state that my request concerns the Northern Constabulary investigation into the murder of Shamsuddin Mahmood at the Mumutaz Restaurant in Kirkwall on June 2, 1994. I'm aware of an FOI exemption regarding law enforcement activity, but since the case closed with the conviction of Michael Alexander Ross at the Glasgow High Court in 2008, I'm hoping the information I seek is available.

## I would like to request the following information in the form of a Freedom of Information (FOI) request:

## 1. Please provide high resolution copies of the identikit e-fits that were made of two people who witnesses saw threatening Mr Mahmood on the evening of May 31, 1994.

## 2. Please also provide high resolution copies of identikit e-fits of a "man" seen acting suspiciously in Papdale Woods on May 19 (he was later identified as Michael Ross, then aged 15).

## 3. Please provide a high resolution copy of the identikit e-fit made of a man seen in the lane next to the Mumutaz Restaurant around 5.10 on June 2.

## 4. Lastly, please provide any other e-fits which were created in connection with this case (along with a description of the sighting that they represent).

Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in providing a response to your request for the information above.

Following on from our interim response of 12 September, I must now advise you that on closer inspection it has been estimated that any exercise to manually sift and check in excess of forty file boxes would exceed the £600 cost threshold defined in the Act.

I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 16(4) of the Act, as section 12(1) - Excessive Cost of Compliance - applies.

I recognise that you have provided further details to define the scope of your original request but I’m afraid the response remains the same.

To explain, the only methodology we could utilise for your request is a manual check of every paper document within over forty paper storage boxes as there are no inventory lists to clearly identify what the boxes contain.

As I’m sure you will appreciate, any such task would be would be a huge undertaking with no guarantee that the relevant information is held.

Accordingly on this occasion it is assessed that the cost of locating, retrieving and providing the information sought would take over 40 hours and be in excess of the £600 cost limit.

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.