| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-3106Responded to: 19 December 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## As part of Police Scotland’s ‘Proportionate Response to Crime’ pilot (which ran between 28th August 2023 and 20th November 2023 in the North East region) how many reports from members of the public met the criteria for the pilot?

## Separately, on how many occasions was a crime reference number supplied to a member of the public with no further action taken?

Following the conclusion of the pilot, the information sought is in the process of being collated for the purposes of being included in an evaluation report.

The information sought is therefore held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the exemption at section 30(c) of the Act applies.

It is acknowledged that the data relates to matters of considerable public, political and media interest.

Nevertheless, it is assessed that public disclosure of the data requested, in advance of the pilot evaluation and outwith that process, would substantially prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

The timing of the request is a key factor in reaching a decision on disclosure.

It is essential that any options which are either to be taken forward or subsequently discarded, are shared in an appropriate, considered and fair way and that related internal discussions can be had prior to public discussions - particularly in circumstances where a final outcome regarding those discussions will ultimately be shared with the public.

Whilst I accept that there is a genuine public interest in openness and transparency around the steps being taken by Police Scotland in this area, that interest is wholly outweighed by the need to ensure that the pilot is properly evaluated as planned.

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 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 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.