| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-3061Responded to: xx January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing with regard to the above FOI which was submitted in March.

## It has been forwarded to me to do a story on the sale of police stations and gives a list of 115 which have been sold by Police Scotland over 10 years from 2013-2023.

## The reply states that no sales data is available prior to 2015 but the sales figures are not given for the stations sold after 2015.

## Is it possible to get those figures please?

Please find attached a spreadsheet containing the requested data.

There are some caveats I must add, namely that the variance from the original spreadsheet provided is £10.9m, as explained below.

Police houses and a garage were excluded in error from the initial submission, 76 instances worth £8.6m.

To note that 17 houses were reported initially, some of this can be explained by bad naming conventions in 2014/15.

Despite the FOI request being for buildings and land it appears that any sales of exclusively land were omitted, in error, adding 8 instances worth £1.1m.

There are 4 additional omissions coming to £1.2m, 3 are a result of the start and end time parameters in the original FOI versus the recording on our system and 1 being a true error.

In relation to the addresses of Police Houses, the information sought is 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 following exemptions apply: Section 38(1)(b) of the Act applies - personal data and section 39(1) - Health & Safety.

Section 38(1)(b) - Personal Data

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

‘Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person’

Given it is specific addresses in question, I am of the view that the potential for an individual to be identified is significant.

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

‘Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject’

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met.

The only potentially applicable condition is set out at Article 6(1)(f) which states:

‘Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child’

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information and that disclosure may well be necessary for that purpose, I am nonetheless of the view that those interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject.

Section 39(1) - Health and Safety

Information is exempt information if its disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the physical or mental health or safety of an individual.

As previously stated, disclosure could lead to individuals, especially serving/ ex officers and their families being identified and targeted. This could harm their mental health, in the sense that they would, as a minimum, be living in fear of being identified and possibly being targeted as a result.

Public Interest Test

Whilst I accept that there is a public interest in terms of better informing the public as to the management of police buildings, there can be no parallel interest in the disclosure of information where there would be a detriment to the safety and wellbeing of any individuals. Disclosure would undoubtedly increase the likelihood of any serving or ex officer and their families being physically or mentally harmed.

It is therefore my view that where held, any information which exists would be considered exempt from disclosure.

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.