| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0697  Responded to: 10 April 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to know the number of panic buttons/alarms Police Scotland has distributed to individuals in Glasgow in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 and the reasons they were given.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, I can confirm that the information you have requested is not held by Police Scotland.

To explain, Police Scotland do not issue “panic buttons / alarms”. However, Police Scotland do provide personal alarms, these are small handheld devices which when activated emit a high decibel continuous noise designed to attract attention and deter any person posing a threat. They are routinely distributed at events, talks and presentations, personal safety inputs and post-incident victim engagement.

These devices are distributed as a preventative measure, to safeguard from harm.

Additionally, Police Scotland also provides devices for urgent and direct communication with the Police in an emergency situation for high-risk victims of domestic abuse, forced marriage, honour-based abuse, stalking and harassment, and child sexual exploitation.

The use of these alarms is covert, to provide the number of devices issued has the potential to bring harm to victims of the circumstances noted above. As such, 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 section 39 - Health, Safety and The Environment, exemption applies. One of the main purposes of the Police Service is to protect individuals and members of the public, to disclose the requested information would be contrary to that purpose.

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.