| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1484  Responded to: 4 July 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. Does your police force use

## Predictive policing

I have interpreted your request as seeking information in relation to predictive modelling and can advise that Police Scotland do not currently use advanced analytical models or software to predict crime locations, offenders, risk of reoffending, risk of victimhood or other common approaches often labelled as ‘predictive policing.’

## AI assisted video analytics (such as the Fusus platform which uses AI to identify and alert police to specific items of clothing or unattended rucksacks)

Police Scotland do not currently use this technology.

By way of information, I can advise that Police Scotland are current exploring the possibility of implementing a new technology called Briefcam, to be used in conjunction with CCTV. Briefcam will provide an object matching capability, i.e. items of clothing, bags, hats, etc. Whilst Briefcam does have facial matching capabilities, Police Scotland will not be using this element, and the functionality will be disabled at an engineering level. Briefcam will not monitor number plates but would have the capability to identify vehicles, as part of object matching. BriefCam makes use of enhanced search software to assist operators review large amounts of data over multiple streams quicker and can deliver more accurate description matches for further action. It is anticipated that this would significantly reduce the time officers spend on inquiries, however it will not be deployed until it has been through our Rights Based Pathway and we are satisfied that the use of the technology is ethical and will enhance our ability to Keep People Safe.

Facial recognition (a specific form of AI assisted video analytics distinct from the above point)

Police Scotland do not employ Live Facial Recognition, however we do utilise retrospective facial recognition (also referred to as Facial Matching) via the Police National Database (PND). This technology is utilised post event as part of a crime investigation where images captured through the investigation (typically CCTV and mobile phone footage) are compared against national custody images to identify suspects.

Police Scotland also use the Facial Matching capability within the UK Child Abuse Image Database (CAID) and further information on this can be accessed on the Scottish Police Authority’s website at - [Rights Based Pathway Pilot | Scottish Police Authority (spa.police.uk)](https://www.spa.police.uk/publication-library/policing-in-a-digital-world-programme-15-june-2023/rights-based-pathway-pilot/#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20the%20Rights%20Based%20Pathway%20is,respect%20of%20it%20adoption%20and%20use%20of%20technology.).

Police Scotland is not currently using or testing live facial recognition, officer instigated retrospective matching or mobile capture technology; however, we are monitoring police use elsewhere via UK policing forums. In due course, we will consider the adoption of any such technology as part of our Rights Based Pathway and Data Ethics Triage, and only if we are satisfied utilisation is lawful, effective, proportionate, and ethical in a Scottish policing context to support keeping people safe.

## 2. If so, which company was each technology bought from

## 3. Are any of these technologies used to aid stop and search practices

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the above requested information.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, plese refer to the reply provide above.

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.