| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2808  Responded to: 21st November 2023 |
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In follow-up to FOI request 23-1416 and 23-2332, your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1. Were those redacted photocopies that were sent on 15 November 2018 all of the pages of the diary/journal or only select pages of the diary/journal?**

The redacted photocopies were only of parts of the diary/journal - not it all.

**2. Police Scotland were given access to/sight of the diary/journal on 7 September 2018. Why did Police Scotland not take possession of it then? According to the Scottish Government the civil servant in question regularly keeps a notebook for work notes. With that in mind it is not credible that he would be using the same notebook in 2018 that contained the historic allegation from 2013 – 2014 in it! It should have been an old workbook (maybe even more than one) that the historic allegations were contained in.**

**3. Why did Police Scotland wait until 15 November 2018 for redacted photocopies (somewhat pointless if you had already had access to/sight of the journal previously) to be sent given that you had access to/sight of the journal on 7 September 2018?**

**4. Why did Police Scotland wait until 13 February 2019 to come into possession of the actual physical diary/journal?**

## In regards to questions 2, 3 and 4 of your request, for operational reasons the diary/journal was not seized on 07/09/2018 until non evidential and sensitive information contained in the diary/journal had been assessed and discussions as to its handling resolved.

In the interim as we worked towards securing the full diary/journal, the redacted photocopies were provided.

**5. When did Police Scotland first become aware of this diary/journal? The exact date please. This is not to be confused with when they first gained access to/sight of it.**

Police Scotland first became aware of and had sight of the diary/journal on the same day - 07/09/2018.

**6. Police Scotland states it returned the diary/journal to the Scottish Government on 1st May 2020. Is this the actual physical diary/journal alone (which Police Scotland took possession of in 13 February 2019) or does it also include the redacted photocopies (sent to Police Scotland on 15 November 2018) as well? The Scottish Government mentions that it retains only SOME of the photocopied pages. Please could you go into as much detail as you can on this.**

It was the actual diary / journal that was returned to Scottish Government on 01/05/2020, not the redacted photocopies.

**7. Has Police Scotland consulted with anyone in the Scottish Government in regard to the two previous FOI requests and if so who?**

No consultation has taken place with anyone in Scottish Government on the previous two FOI requests. The second part of your question is therefore not applicable.

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.