



Freedom of Information Response

Our reference: FOI 24-0707

Responded to: 10 April 2024

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

We have received an unprecedented volume of requests lately and that has, unfortunately, impacted on our ability to meet the statutory timescales in some cases.

I am seeking all emails, letters, memoranda, notes, and any other forms of written communication exchanged between Police Scotland, The Crown Office and First Minister and Justice Secretary regarding Iain Packer within the timeframe of 1990s to 2007, inclusive.

In order to ensure a comprehensive response, I request that the correspondence include, but not limited to, the following:

Any internal communications within your organisation or department related to the specified topic.

Any communications between your organisation and external entities, including but not limited to other government agencies, private companies, or non-profit organisations, regarding Iain Packer.

Any reports, briefings, or summaries prepared as a result of the aforementioned communications such as him working as a police informant.

Any policies, directives, or guidelines pertaining to the Iain Packer that were discussed or circulated during the specified timeframe.

Any meeting minutes or records of discussions related to the Iain Packer.

I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600/40 hours and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

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As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

In terms your specific request, it is too wide to collate data within the timescales prescribed under the Act. To explain further, each area has their own shared drives, which would require to be checked for documentation, along with every individual's mailbox and also any departmental mailboxes. Whilst we could carry out a search of departments where we think the information would be held relating to your request, we cannot guarantee that this would produce any information or would provide a full and accurate picture in terms of your request.

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](#), 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](#) 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.