| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2989  Responded to: 20 December 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am reaching out to submit a Freedom of Information request regarding the use of electric vehicles within your force.**

**I would be grateful if you could provide responses to the following questions:**

1. **How many motor vehicles are owned by the force as of November 2024**

Police Scotland have a marked vehicle fleet, that is to say vehicles that have police livery or markings and an unmarked fleet that does not have any identifiable markings.

I am refusing to provide you with the number of vehicles owned by Police Scotland. As by doing so would confirm the number of unmarked cars owned by the force, due to details of our marked vehicles being published online.

[Fleet information - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/fleet-information)

Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I consider the following exemption applicable.

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) – Law Enforcement**

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

Disclosure of the unmarked fleet would highlight vehicle resources and capabilities. Revealing this information would substantially weaken the effective use of vehicle resources with a corresponding risk to law enforcement and to the safety of both the public and officers.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

**Public Interest Test**

I recognise that public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the overall nature of vehicle resources available for deployment by the Police.

I would, however, contend that the efficient/effective conduct of the service and public safety favours retention of the information as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public safety.

1. **How many electric vehicles (including hybrid) are owned by the force as of November 2024**
2. **The manufacturer name of electric vehicles bought by the force up to November 2024**

**5. What are electric vehicles used in the force**

Regarding our marked fleet, I can advise that Police Scotland own 129 electric vehicles, make and model as follows:

Fiat E-Ducato

Hyundai Kona EV

Peugeot e-Expert

Vauxhall Vivaro E

Volkswagen ID.4

Leyland DAF EV

Regarding any unmarked vehicles, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether the information sought exists or is held by Police Scotland in terms of section 18.

Section 18 applies where the following two conditions are met:

* It would be contrary to the public interest to reveal whether the information is held.

Whilst we accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to the equipment used by Police Scotland, especially where public funds and accountability for same are involved, the overwhelming public interest lies in protecting the integrity of specialist policing tactics.

* If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure in terms of at least one exemption set out in the Act. In this instance, the following exemptions apply:

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement**

Disclosure would prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders by highlighting vehicle resources and capabilities. Revealing this information would substantially weaken the effective use of vehicle resources with a corresponding risk to law enforcement and to the safety of both the public and officers.

**Section 39(1) - Health and Safety**

Disclosure would increase the risk to the personal safety of police officers using unmarked vehicles.

**Public Interest Test**

Public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the overall nature of vehicle resources available for deployment by the Police. However, the efficient/ effective conduct of the force and public safety favours non-disclosure as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement, or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public safety**.**

**4. How much has the force spent on electric vehicles up to November 2024**

As of November 2024, the total spend on all electric vehicles is £25,212,982.33. Please note, this figure includes all electric vehicles purchased by Police Scotland.

**6. How many electric vehicles does the force plan to purchase in the five-year period to March 2030**

In line with the Fleet Strategy, Police Scotland is working towards an Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle Fleet by 2030, electric vehicles will be part of the solution subject to operational requirements and technology advancements.

**7. What budget has the force allocated to purchase electric vehicles every year up to March 2030**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, the Scottish Government set budgets annually, the budget for 2025/2026 onwards has not yet been set.

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.