| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0586  Responded to: 23rd March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Please provide a full list and details of events and incidents referred to by ACC Ritchie in the communication attached.**Screenshot of Letter from ACC Gary Ritchie as follows:

Police Scotland - Message to Communities

Message from ACC Gary Ritchie - 16 February 2023

Police Scotland is aware of increased community tensions and concerns within our LGBT+ communities following events and incidents across Scotland and the United Kingdom.

Police Scotland is committed to keeping people safe and we have officers within your communities to provide reassurance and assistance.  We will continue to monitor developments and work closely with local partners to ensure people and communities and the support required whenever they need it.

Police Scotland has a zero tolerance approach to hate crime.  If you have been targeted because of your disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or transgender identity, we want you to report it.  If you are aware of someone else being targeted, we also want you to report it.

Contact us by calling 101, or 999 in an emergency.  British Sign Language communities can utilise Contact Scotland BSL or the BSL 999 service.  Other methods included SMS 999 and Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

If you are a victim or witness to any crime or targeting of individuals and communities, this can also be reported using our online hate crime reporting form on the Police Scotland website or via one of our Third Party Reporting Centres.

Thank you,

ACC Gary Ritchie

ACC Ritchie was not referring to a specific set of incidents reported to Police Scotland. He was responding to mainstream events in national media outlets and conversations that have been fed in to local officers when engaging with communities.

In relation to a request for a list of events/incidents, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information requested is not held by Police Scotland.

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.