| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2807  Responded to: 17 November 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. To what extent the interpreter reallocates discursive power among the participants throughout the interaction? Do they empower or disempower the interviewee?

## 2. How can shifts in pragmatics in pre-trial stages affect judicial proceedings? (Pragmatical elements to be investigated)

## 3. Is it feasible to achieve pragmatic equivalence when an individual's understanding of relevance is shaped by their cultural and linguistic background?

## 4. Are cognitive interviewing methods effective in multilingual settings?

FOI legislation provides a right of access to recorded information only and we are unable to provide comment/ statements other than where that information is already recorded.  In terms of section 8 of the Act, these questions are not valid as they do not seek access to recorded information.

## There are different practical outcomes to my research. I'd like to improve current police interpreting practices by developing new training methods for police officers and interpreters and new strategies to enhance their collaboration.

## Therefore, to carry out my research, I shall need to analyse authentic interpreter-mediated police interviews (taking place in the UK) that feature English-Italian and English-Russian as language pairs (because I'm proficient in these languages). Also, English-Spanish would be a feasible option.

I am refusing to provide you with access to or copies of any police interviews.

Section 16 of the Act requires Police Scotland 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.

The exemptions I consider to be applicable are:

Section 38(1)(b) - Personal Data.

Section 34(1)(b) - Investigations by a Scottish public authority

Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law enforcement

I fully appreciate your academic interest but this has to be balanced against privacy restrictions and also the need to preserve the integrity of police investigations and associated criminal justice proceedings.

There can be no public interest in publicly disclosing interview details held by the police.

There are already measures in place for academic research purposes: [academicresearch@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:academicresearch@scotland.pnn.police.uk) Further information is available on our website: [Scottish Institute of Policing Research - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/who-we-are/external-liaison/scottish-institute-of-policing-research/)

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.