| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-1415Responded to: 25 June 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## i) The number of police staff in Edinburgh Division who accepted voluntary redundancy under the VR/VER schemes after the announcement of the closure of five current and fourteen potential locations in Edinburgh.

There were no police staff releases within the Edinburgh Division under the VR/VER Scheme following the announcement of closures in Edinburgh.

## a. The number of redundancy processes which specifically mention station closure as a factor.

There have not been station closures specifically mentioned through the VR/VER redundancy process.

## ii) What voluntary redundancy scheme – if any – currently exists for police constables in Edinburgh Division.

## iii) How many police officers/constables in Edinburgh Division have accepted redundancy under this scheme.

## a. Clarification as to whether this redundancy package was specifically devised for officers being made redundant sue to station closures.

## iv) Whether any redundancy scheme available for police constables in place are the individual prerogative of the various Divisions or centrally by Police Scotland.

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the above requested information.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, severance schemes only apply to members of police staff.

There is no scheme for police officers, accordingly there is no additional information held.

## v) To disclose the relocation figures of police constables who are currently or formerly employed in the now closed or proposed 14 closed stations in Edinburgh.

## vi) Meeting notes in which the distribution and density of police constables by Edinburgh Division has been discussed.

I would advise that Police Scotland are not closing 14 stations in Edinburgh.

To be of assistance I can provide some narrative around what Police Scotland want to achieve through the transformation programme. Namely, our estate will be fit for the future, shaped by local demand, flexible, modern and efficient. The plans support the different ways in which our diverse communities contact us, promote officer and staff wellbeing / welfare, maximise modern technology, maximise co-location and collaborative opportunities, where appropriate to do so, whilst ensuring that we achieve best value.  Importantly, all with the intention of improving our visibility and accessibility, as well as bringing partners together to deliver services in the most efficient and effective way. We will continue to keep communities and partners engaged and involved in how we do things and how they experience contact and engagement with local policing.

Policing transcends buildings, and with communities being at the heart of our Estates Strategy, we have and remain committed to providing a visible and accessible presence to effectively respond to the communities’ needs. It may also be helpful for you to know, that following the adoption of mobile devices, the requirement for officers to return to police stations to complete paperwork has reduced, maximising time in communities.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), 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](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.