| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-2059  Responded to: 14th September 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I refer to your response 23-0854 which was very helpful. I would like to ask for clarification on one point please.

## In your answer to my question 3 "Please confirm whether applicants are subjected to biometric vetting (fingerprints and DNA)." You replied that: "Applicants to Police Scotland are not subject to biometric vetting."

## In England and Wales, the College of Policing APP on Vetting (Section 7) provides as indicated in the image attached. Can you confirm:

## Whether such a biometric vetting (fingerprints and DNA) policy exists for Police Scotland?

Police Scotland does not hold a policy for biometric vetting and as such**,** in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

Vetting in Police Scotland is conducted as per the Vetting Manual Guidance which is publicly available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link:-

[Vetting Manual Guidance](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/g3xlghjn/vetting-manual-of-guidance-v-1-10-_redacted.pdf)

## Whether biometric vetting (checking samples against databases to ensure applicants have not been the subject of adverse police attention/linked to any crime scene) is ever conducted in the course of recruiting police officers in Scotland? If it is sometimes conducted, please clarify in what circumstances it might be used.

## Are fingerprints and/or DNA samples ever taken during the course of recruitment of any police officers and/or staff for retention for the purposes of elimination at future crime scenes?

During the recruitment process, applicants, whether they are for a police officer or a police staff role, are not subject to biometric vetting, nor are fingerprint or DNA samples taken.

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.