| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1803  Responded to: 11 August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. All correspondence between Celtic FC and Police Scotland between April 1 2023 and the date of this FOI regarding their title and treble celebrations in Glasgow.

## 2. All briefings prepared by Police Scotland in regards to how they dealt with the Celtic FC title and treble celebrations, including preparatory work and the aftermath.

This information is considered to be exempt in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act). 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. Where information is considered to be exempt, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice that information is held and an explanation of the appropriate exemption is provided.

## Section 35(1)(a)&(b) Law Enforcement

The information requested is exempt, as its disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

Release of briefings regarding this event could adversely impact on the operational effectiveness of the Service in policing such similar gatherings in the future. Being aware of the numbers of officers on duty and the resources utilised would allow persons or groups intent on committing offences or causing disorder with the means to make a reasonable assessment of police tactics at similar events in the future and thus to make an assessment of the capacity of the Service to deal with such eventualities. Disclosure of this information would compromise any tactical advantage the police may have over such persons or groups when dealing with any crime or disorder.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

## Section 38 (1) (b) – Personal Information

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information and that disclosure may well be necessary for that purpose, I am nonetheless of the view that those interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject(s).

To explain, correspondence held has Police Officers names recorded and release of this personal information, either directly or inadvertently is exempt under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is an absolute exemption and does not require the application of the public interest test.

## Section 39 (1) Health, Safety and the Environment

The information requested is exempt as its disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the physical health or safety of an individual. As previously described, to disclose the details of how Police Scotland dealt with the situation on the day would allow those intent on committing crime or causing disorder to gauge the likelihood of detection or to take measures to negate the likelihood of detection. This could leave members of the public at an increased risk of being the victim of crime and jeopardise wider community safety.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

## Public Interest Test

The public interest factors favouring disclosure surround the release of accurate information into the public domain for the awareness of the public and accountability for the use of police resources. Those favouring retention of the information surround the efficiency of the police service when policing gatherings such as this and public safety.

In this instance, the balance of the public interest test favours retention of the information requested as it cannot be in the greater public interest to compromise the efficiency of the service and public safety at such events.

## 3. Cost to Police Scotland of covering the title and treble celebrations.

With regards to costs I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold the information requested in relation to costs. In terms of Section 17(1) of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland does not routinely record such costs. The nature of policing means that officers and staff are deployed to wherever their services are most required. The Division to which individual officers or staff belong meet the cost of their core time and so there is no requirement to maintain a record of the cost of any particular duty carried out.

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.