| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0672  Responded to: 29 March 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. How many employees do you have?

Please be advised that Police Officer and Police Staff numbers are publicly available.

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, 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.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

The information you are seeking is available on the Police Scotland website, via the following link: [Police Scotland Officer Numbers - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/police-scotland-officer-numbers/)

## 2. How many printers (A4, A3 single function or multi-function) do you have?

In total there are 10,902

## 3. How many print servers do you have?

There are 7 servers in the National Print solution, 4 slave servers for the print queues, 1 Master Server, 1 Streamline server and 1 SQL server. There are also 17 legacy print servers currently being decommissioned.

## 4. Do you use any print management software (Equitrac, SafeQ, PaperCut, PrinterLogic etc)?

Yes

## 6. If so, which do you use?

## 5. Who supplies your printers, software and servers?

In response to these questions I can advise you that multiple vendors are used.

I am however refusing to provide you with the names of the vendors in terms of section 16 of the Act. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

* states that it holds the information,
* states that it is claiming an exemption,
* specifies the exemption in question and
* states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement.

Information is exempt information if its disclosure would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime. It is not exceptional for individuals to enquire as to specific details of information technology in use in Police Scotland. Nonetheless, there is concern that the release of such data could provide attack opportunities.

The requested information could be used by a hostile party to plan and execute an attack on the various systems. Such attacks could take the form of data theft, denial of service or other deliberate disruptions.

This could not help but have the effect of reducing the ability of the police to undertake relevant activities.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

## Public Interest Test

The public interest factors favouring disclosure of the information surround the Service’s accountability for public funds in terms of the cost to the public purse.

Those favouring retention of the information surround the adverse effect on the efficiency of the organisation. Disclosure would provide those intent on disrupting police activities with enough information to plan and execute a targeted attack. Where systems are compromised, there is also the potential for sensitive information such as personal data, security information and other data to be made public, therefore, in this instance the factors favouring retention of the data outweigh those of disclosure.

## 7. What is the job title of the person responsible for printers within your organization?

Head of IT Operations/ Print Services Manager/Lead Technical Services Officer

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.