| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-0166Responded to: 19 April 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

The amount of money spent on the building of Greenock Police Station between calendar years 2018 and 2023.

I have provided at the bottom of this letter a table with the total amount spent on repairs and maintenance at this site per year as requested.

## Please provide a breakdown of the money spent per year (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023. Money spent on building refers to repairs and renovation and maintenance.

I have included separately to this response a spreadsheet providing a list of all improvements/works carried out during time period requested.

I would advise that some of 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 30 (c) - Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under the Act would otherwise prejudice substantially, or be likely to prejudice substantially, the effective conduct of public affairs.

In this instance telephone numbers cannot be disclosed. To release these details publicly through FOI legislation could negatively impact on the operational effectiveness of the service and partner agencies. The phone numbers are used for operational/business purposes and this information has been removed in order to ensure that internal processes are protected.

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

**Section 35(1) (a) and (b) Law Enforcement**

Release of the information requested would adversely impact on the operational effectiveness of the Service. Being aware of some of these outstanding repairs/repairs previously needed within this location could allow persons or groups intent on committing offences, or causing disorder, with information which could be a security risk and a risk Police Scotland staff and officer safety.

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

**Public Interest Test**

Public awareness and accountability would favour a disclosure on this subject as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the efficient and effective use of resources by the Service. However, in contrast, there is no public interest in disclosing information which is likely to damage the efficient and effective conduct of the police service in relation to its law enforcement role, or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public safety.

Accordingly, I consider that the decision must fall in favour of preventing crime and safeguarding the health and safety of police employees and the public, therefore, on balance, the public interest in disclosing the information requested is outweighed by that in maintaining the exemptions detailed above.

**Section 38(1) (b) of the Act - personal information.**

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

‘Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person’

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

‘Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject’

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met. The only potentially applicable condition is Article 6(1) (f) which states:

‘Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data.

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).

This is an absolute exemption and does not require the application of the public interest test.

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 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.

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| **Year** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2023/24 (YTD)** | **Total**  |
| **Total Costs** | £130,415.29 | £23,086.35 | £222,203.33 | £226,227.79 | £84,286.17 | £46,282.89 | £732,501.82 |