| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0951  Responded to: 28th April 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Can you confirm if there was an undercover police presence on the Orkney island of Sanday in 1980?

## If so, when did this begin and when did it finish (please include the year and month)?

## If so, how many individual officers were stationed on the island?

## Please supply any records, reports, and memos regarding an undercover police presence in the Orkney island of Sanday in 1980.

## As a point of clarification which may help narrow this down, I understand the officer was in post because of the anarchist Stuart Christie residing on Sanday.

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, I would advise you that under

Section 18 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), Police Scotland can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information requested by you. However, if the information was held by the Service, it would be considered exempt in terms of one or more of the exemptions detailed in Section 18 of the Act, which are listed below:

* Section 34(1) – Investigations
* Section 35(1) (a) & (b) - Law Enforcement
* Section 38(1)(b) – Personal Data

To disclose whether or not information was held would confirm whether or not the circumstances referred to were in some way known to Police Scotland.

If any information were held, it would be held for the purpose of an investigation and disclosure of such information would prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

This should not, however, be taken as conclusive evidence that the information you have requested exists or does not exist.

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.