| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-1714  Responded to: 6 August 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Under FOISA 2002 I require the following information:**

**How many CCTV cameras are installed in Dumfries Town Centre as of this date?**

**Under whose ownership are the cameras?**

**Total cost of equipment for current set-up?**

**Total cost of installation for current set-up?**

**Which specification(s) of cameras are currently installed (including whether analogue or digital)?**

**Which company/companies is/are responsible for cleaning and maintenance of Dumfries town centre CCTV equipment and what is the annual budget for this?**

**As of this date, how many cameras are functional vs inoperative (if so, how long have the inoperative cameras been out of action)?**

**Is a map available showing CCTV camera positions + range/area covered by (a) publicly-owned, and (b) privately-owned CCTV cameras within the town centre?**

**Please provide details / documentation regarding any proposed upgrades to Dumfries town centre CCTV - whether planned or under consideration - along with specifications, estimated costs for equipment and installation, and whether this is predicted to have any effect on monitoring/staff levels and/or maintenance costs per annum. Also include minutes of meetings where proposed budgets for CCTV upgrades have been discussed.**

## Please confirm whether any existing or proposed equipment utilises facial recognition technology and/or has facial recognition capability and/or whether there are plans to install facial recognition technology.

In response to the above questions, I can advise that the equipment was installed in 2011 and is maintained by Dumfries and Galloway Council.

As such, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

**If monitored, how many staff are employed for this function, from which company, and what are the associated costs per annum?**

## Are the cameras monitored, and if so during which hours are they monitored - eg, 24/7, 9-5, weekends, etc - or are they simply used as a resource for evidence collection post incident?

The system is monitored 24/7 by Police Scotland CCTV Operators. No external companies are used.

I am refusing to detail how many Police Scotland CCTV operators there are (or the associated costs, from which this could be deduced) in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

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

Section 39(1) - Health and Safety

Disclosure would provide a valuable insight into the level of Police Scotland resource in this area, which in turn, could be used by criminals to plan their activities and take steps to avoid detection.

Disclosure of resource levels provide valuable intelligence to those who may seek to divert those resource levels to further their own ends.

Whilst we accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to police resource levels and the use of those resources, that must be balanced with the need to protect the integrity of what is a valuable crime prevention and detection tool.

## For how long are CCTV recordings kept for (a) publicly-owned (b) privately-owned CCTV cameras?

## Please direct me to any rules or guidance that must be observed with regard to CCTV. Do General Data Protection Regulations limit CCTV information can be used for? If yes, then (a) in what manner, and (b) are the same rules applicable to privately-owned CCTV Cameras?

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available and I would refer you in particular to our Data Protection and Record Retention Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) and our Privacy Notices:

[Standard Operating Procedures D-F - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/policies-and-procedures/standard-operating-procedures/standard-operating-procedures-d-f/)

[Standard Operating Procedures P-S - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/policies-and-procedures/standard-operating-procedures/standard-operating-procedures-p-s/)

[Privacy Notice – Law Enforcement - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/data-protection/privacy-notice-law-enforcement/)

In relation to privately-owned CCTV cameras, the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

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.