| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-2309  Responded to: 29 November 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

**Can you provide me with copies of all communication between your office and the Home Office since 23 May 2024 in respect of FOI 24 – 1388 please?**

I can advise that a search of our recording systems has identified not identified any relevant correspondence in relation to the original request you submitted on 23 May 2024.

With regards to the review request submitted on 10 June 2024 a search has identified 4 pieces of correspondence, and these are attached separately, 24-2309 Data 1 - 3. Please note that 24-2309 Data 1 contains 2 emails.

As you will note some information has been redacted and 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.

The exemptions that I consider to be applicable to the information requested by you are:

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

Information which would identify staff from Police Scotland and our partners (names of individuals whose details are not in the public domain) cannot be disclosed. The release of this information to a third party would breach the requirement that exists in relation to processing personal information.

This is an absolute exemption and does not require application of the Public Interest Test.

**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 and e-mail addresses 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 and email addresses 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.

**Public Interest Test**

Release of e-mail addresses and telephone numbers which are not in the public domain could negatively impact on the operational effectiveness of Police Scotland and our partners. Accordingly, and to ensure that internal processes are protected this information cannot be provided.

There can be no public interest in disclosing information which would make it more difficult to offer an efficient and effective service.

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.