| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 24-0709  Responded to: 24 April 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1/ When the Home Office house asylum/refugee in a hotel within your forces area, the Police/ Fire Brigade/ local NHS all 3 services pay a visit to each hotel being used by the Home Office, where they are offered a priority service to them should they need to contact you, this is regarding your Police force only.**

**2/ If your force has arranged a priority service to each hotel, can you confirm that your force is fully aware of the location of every hotel used within your forces area.**

Police Scotland do not offer a priority service to hotels used to house asylum seekers, therefore, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

Local divisions will be aware of which hotels in their area have been formally designated by the Home Office to accommodate asylum seekers.

**3/ If your force is fully aware that these hotels are solely for the accommodation of refugees/asylum seekers can you confirm.   
If your forces computer records are checked to enable you to:**

**Be aware of the number of times these hotels have been attended by your force, so you will have records that are easily checked for the type of offences you attended for, so you will know what offensives asylum seekers/refugees have been involved in.**

Both the Police Scotland incident and crime recording systems can be searched for events at a particular location.

However, neither has a marker to indicate that any incidents or crimes recorded involved asylum seekers or refugees.

As has been previously explained to you, offences could be committed by asylum seekers away from their temporary accommodation.

Similarly, offences could be committed at these locations by individuals who are not asylum seekers or refugees.

It is our assessment therefore that such an approach would not answer the questions posed and that even assuming we could gather a comprehensive list of hotels across Scotland where such individuals are housed, all incidents and crimes at those locations would have to be individually reviewed for relevance.

These databases are in use to record all crime, not solely for offences where an asylum seeker has been the victim of or perpetrated an offence.

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.