|  Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-2708Responded to: 28 October 2024 |
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I refer to your recent correspondence seeking access to information about a matter you were involved in.

In terms of section 18 of the Act, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether Police Scotland holds the information sought.

Bearing in mind that FOI disclosures are essentially public disclosures, the public interest overwhelmingly lies in protecting individual’s rights to privacy and the integrity of any police investigations.

If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure in terms of at least one exemption set out in the Act. In this instance, the following exemptions apply:

Section 34(1)(b) - Investigations

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

Section 38(1)(a) - Personal Data (applicant’s own)

Section 38(1)(b) - Personal Data (third parties)

I understand that this response may seem confusing and/ or unhelpful in the circumstances, but I would stress that FOI is not the appropriate means by which information about personal matters can be accessed.

Your request has however been passed on to our Victims and Witnesses Team who will be in touch separately.

If you would like to access *your own personal information* held by Police Scotland you can submit a [Subject Access Request](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/data-protection/subject-access-requests) (SAR)to be considered in terms of the Data Protection Act 2018/ GDPR.

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.