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Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1511
Date: 4th August 2022



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

In relation to the form which can be found at this link:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/c3/>

Can you please confirm the rationale for including the specific items in the drop-down list of offences, while excluding others. In other words, please explain why Police Scotland has chosen to give those offences as specific options and not others.

The online reporting form you are asking about is for persons to report Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Hate Crime. It was created to amalgamate three previous separate forms that covered these areas. The offences available on the form specifically relate to Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Hate Crime. These offences are often more difficult or risky for those involved to report and the online form provides a more discrete way to contact the police.

The amalgamation of these forms also allowed online reports to be managed by our Contact, Command and Control division so that a 24/7 hour 365 day cover could be provided.

Not all crimes or offences are suitable for reporting online but I can confirm that we are currently looking at expanding online reporting to cover additional crime types.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

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If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.