| Police Scotland logo | Environmental Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-1233Responded to: 22 May 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

As the information you have requested is ‘environmental information’, we are required to progress your request in terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

We are therefore applying the exemption set out at section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 so that we do not also have to deal with your request under that Act.

We have determined that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exemption, because there is no public interest in dealing with the same request under two different regimes.

This is essentially a technical point and has no material effect on the outcome of your request.

## I am writing to request the contact details of the person or department responsible for managing your organisation’s energy contracts and procurement.

## We are currently conducting a nationwide review into the mismanagement of energy billing across the sector. Our findings show that around 98% of businesses are being incorrectly charged — including unnecessary Climate Change Levy (CCL) charges and overpaid VAT — due to exemptions not being properly applied.

## To support this analysis and determine whether any corrections or refunds may be applicable, I would also be grateful if you could provide a copy of a recent electricity and gas bill (redacted where necessary) for review.

To be of assistance, out Procurement Department is responsible for managing Police Scotland contracts. I have included a link below which provides further information on how to contact them.

[Contact Police Scotland - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/)

A Scottish public authority may refuse a request to make environmental information available if there is an exception to disclosure and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in making the information available is outweighed by that in maintaining the exception.

I am refusing your request in terms of Regulation 10(1) on the basis that the following exceptions apply:

10(5)(e) disclosure would prejudice substantially the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided for by law to protect a legitimate economic interest

Such information will not be disclosed whilst remaining relevant, as it is considered to be commercially sensitive. Disclosure of this information would give a competitive advantage to companies in any future tender process.

Disclosure could reduce the number of companies tendering for the supply of goods and services, they being aware that Police Scotland will disclose commercially sensitive information. This is likely to negatively impact on the tendering process used by the service to ensure it purchases the most efficient and cost effective services in the future, and prejudice the commercial interests of Police Scotland.

This is a non-absolute exemption which requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

**Public Interest Test**

Police Scotland is a publicly funded organisation and therefore the Service has an obligation to obtain best value for money with particular services. Further, in order to do this, it is essential to maintain working relationships with companies that tender their services.

As such, Police Scotland will not disclose any information that would impact on the ability to do both. The public interest would not be served if it were no longer possible to engage companies in a tender offer if they believed that conducting business with Police Scotland would result in their confidential financial information being released**.**

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](https://www.foi.scot/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.