| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0880Responded to: 30 May 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

**Please provide your Standard operating procedure that would explain where it is stated that there is a single agency (Police) investigation, on an IRD and where police 'attempted' to release on standard bail undertaking.
But PI Darren Cook stated he made a joint decision with social work for special conditions in addition to standard bail conditions in conjunction with Social Work, but it clearly states this particular investigation was a 'single' agency (police) investigation.
I merely, require to understand the standards operating procedures in this instance for my client, it may be that there is a joint or a single investigation memorandum of understanding, or both?
I just require to specifically have recorded data on the your obligations under a single agency (police) investigation, when a PI Darren Cook averred in writing it was a joint decision despite it being a single agency (police) investigation?
I'm not being obtuse, it is merely an understanding of the procedures that were followed.**

Clarified as:

## I believe it could be standard operating procedure for your joint investigation team with local authority councils social work departments that I need, if you have such a SOP, memorandum of agreement or any other form of recorded agreement for joint agency (not multi) investigation teams

As was outlined in our initial clarification email, we are unable to comment as regards particular investigations.

More generally, I would remind you that Freedom of Information legislation provides a right of access to recorded information only.

Our interpretation of your request is that you are seeking access to recorded information held by Police Scotland that refers to local authority social work departments being a joint investigating body in a criminal investigation.

That being the case, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

Criminal investigations relating to child abuse and neglect are the responsibility of the police while the local authority is responsible for enquiries relating to children who are suffering or are likely to suffer significant harm and assessments of children in need.

These are separate but interconnected processes which require joint information gathering, information sharing and decision making.

The following documents may be of interest to you:

[Child Protection - Inter-Agency Referral Discussions SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/l23d3qtb/child-protection-inter-agency-referral-discussions-sop.pdf)

[Crime Investigation SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/uwwcamlx/crime-investigation-sop.pdf)

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

Please note that as you have already requested a review in relation to this request, any further dissatisfaction with the response should be escalated 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).

We cannot conduct a second review.

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.