Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0797 Date: 26 April 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.

On how many occasions, has a Police Scotland officer carried out a lone officer verification check since October 2nd 2021?

On how many occasions, has a member of the public requested that a verification check be done since October 2nd 2021?

The Officer Verification Protocol was implemented by Police Scotland on 02 October 2021.

When a request is received by the control room to carry out a verification check, the member of staff completing the verification should add a 'tag' to the relevant incident. This allows for retrospective searches and auditing to be undertaken.

From 02 October 2021 to 07 April 2022, this 'tag' has been added to 25 incidents. These have all been individually reviewed and 2 relate to circumstances where a lone officer was assisting a lone member of the public.

On other occasions verification has taken place in a variety of different circumstances, including where multiple officers were present, or where a member of the public had received a phone call from Police Scotland.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee 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 <u>foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk</u> or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

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.

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You can apply <u>online</u>, by email to <u>enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info</u> 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 <u>Disclosure Log</u> in seven days' time.