| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1614  Responded to: 25 September 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I wish to make a freedom of information request regarding reported road traffic accidents at A71, Newmilns Road, Galston –** **Grid Reference X (Easting) 250742; Y (Northing) 636918:**

* **How many road traffic accidents at this locus were reported to Police Scotland between January 2021 and December 2024?**
* **What were the dates of these accidents?**
* **How many vehicles were involved in each accident?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, required the attendance of police officers?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, involved casualties?**

I can confirm that from 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2024 at location ‘Grid Reference X (Easting) 250742; Y (Northing) 636918’, there has only been one recorded Road Traffic Collision (RTC).

Date of collision - 20th July 2024

Vehicles involved: 3

Casualties: 2

Collision Severity: ‘Fatal’

Casualty Severity: 1 – ‘Severe’, 1 – ‘Fatal’

Please note that a reportable collision is defined at [section 170 of the Road Traffic Act 1988](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/52/section/170) and describes the legal responsibility on those drivers involved to report the matter to the police. Where those involved exchange personal details, there is no legal requirement to report a collision to the police, and this applies particularly to non-injury collisions.

As such, there may have been other collisions at the location specified in your request, which were not reported to Police Scotland, or which were reported, but did not require a collision report to be created. Any such incidents will therefore not be included within the data.

* **Which of those accidents, if any, involved wet/damp road surface conditions?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, involved a vehicle that skidded?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, involved a vehicle that left the carriageway?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, were caused by the road conditions or surface?**
* **Which of those accidents, if any, were reported to the Procurator Fiscal?**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

**Section 34 (1)(b) - Investigations**

Information is exempt information if it has at any time been held by Police Scotland for the purposes of an investigation which may lead to a decision to make a report to the Procurator Fiscal to enable it to be determined whether criminal proceedings should be institutedSection 35(1)(a) & (1)(b) - Law Enforcement

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

**Section 38(1)(b) – Personal Data**

Insofar as you have requested third party personal data, disclosure of which would contravene the data protection principles set out in the Act.

Whilst I appreciate the reasons why you might wish this information, I also have to consider the wider implications of the public release, as a release of information under this Act is, essentially, a release of information into the public domain.

Public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would better inform the public as to any public safety matters such as RTCs in the areas they live and visit.

Nevertheless, this must be balanced with the need to ensure that due process as regards any particular RTCs is not prejudiced.

Such detail may usually be released in general terms for a location but in this instance, it is not possible to disclose because there is only one recorded RTC at the location.

Disclosure would therefore identify the specific detail/ contributory factors for this particular RTC which would have an impact as regards any investigations and insurance matters.

Accordingly, in this case it is assessed that the public interest lies firmly in refusing disclosure.

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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) 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](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.