

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0965
Date: 10 May 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.

Could I please obtain a list of all the lost property items currently left behind in police stations within Edinburgh only. I understand items can only be held for three months, so would it be possible to obtain a list of all the items currently being stored in police stations, as opposed to those stored last year.

Could you please include how long these items have been stored for, not individually, as a collective.

In terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

- (a) states that it holds the information,
- (b) states that it is claiming an exemption,
- (c) specifies the exemption in question and
- (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

In this case section 35(1)(a) – Law Enforcement applies.

Section 35(1)(a) – 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 by facilitating false claims for to property held by Police Scotland.

Public Interest Test

Disclosure would add to public awareness in terms of the nature and volume of property held by Police Scotland. However, disclosure would undoubtedly lead to false claims, making it more difficult to reunite property with its rightful owner, thereby potentially facilitating crime and making the job of the Police Scotland in this area more difficult.

However in order to be of assistance, please see the table below which provides a collective list of lost property items.

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Category	Figures	Category	Figures
W Watches	72	G Gloves (Pairs & Single)	5
PW Purses & Wallets	369	S Spectacles	60
H Handbags	31	CS Scarves	1
JR Rings	27	CH Hats	10
JB Brooches	0	CR Coats/Jackets	16
JN Necklaces	12	CB Boots & Shoes	2
JBR Bracelets	21	C Clothing	8
JM Miscellaneous Jewellery	24	CM Clothing Miscellaneous	3
V Cash (Sterling)	130	CV Valises/Bags	100
MON Monetary (Pre-Paid Cards/Gift Cards/Foreign Currency)	9	T Tools	16
D Documents	609	MV Motor Vehicle Items	5
B Books	0	M Hardware	5
MOP Medical/Optical/Photographic	17	PACK Packages	1
HD Household	3	RW Requisites Writing	0
HDE Household Electrical	49	RS Requisites Smoking	2
T&S Toys & Sports	15	RF Requisites Female	4
E Edibles	1	U Umbrellas	4
PRAMS	2	MP Mobile Phones	374
BI Bikes	230		
Figures Are Artificially Low Due To Covid-19 and Lockdown			

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee on foiundee@scotland.police.uk 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.

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.

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