| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3220  Responded to: 17 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How much money has Police Scotland spent on upgrading the custody suite at Greenock police office between January 1 2018 and today?

The custody upgrade at Greenock had a total spend of £530,315.05 from 2018-2021.

## An itemised list of how and where money has been spent over this period of time. Please include information on each area and how much spent.

With regards to providing a list of how and where money has been spent at this location, I would advise that this information is considered to be exempt in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act).

Section 16 of the Act requires Police Scotland 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. Where information is considered to be exempt, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice that information is held and an explanation of the appropriate exemption is provided.

## 39 (1) – Health, safety and the environment

The disclosure of how the custody suite was upgraded could allow persons or groups intent on committing offences, or causing disorder and could infact increase the risk to the personal safety of Police Officers and Police Staff working within this Police Office.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

**Public Interest Test**

Public awareness and accountability would favour a disclosure on this subject as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the efficient and effective use of resources by the Service. However, in contrast, there is no public interest in disclosing information which is likely to damage the efficient and effective conduct of the police service in relation to its law enforcement role, or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public safety.

I consider that the decision must fall in favour of preventing crime and safeguarding the health and safety of the public. Accordingly, on balance, the public interest in disclosing the information requested is outweighed by that in maintaining the exemptions detailed above.

However, to be of assistance I have provided the total costs below for time period requested.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2020/21 |
| Cost | £280,233.73 | £73,086.11 | £176,965.21 |

## On what date was the decision made to spend the money on the custody suite at Greenock police office?

I can advise you that Police Scotland does not hold this information. In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, we do not hold a record of this information.

## Who was the Chief Superintendent in charge of policing for Renfrewshire and Inverclyde at the time of this funding decision?

Chief Superintendent James Downie from Dec 2015 – 31 August 2017.

Chief Superintendent Gordon Crossan from 31 August 2017 to 2019.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.