| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2758  Responded to: 3rd October 2025 |
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Please, first of all, accept my sincere apologies for the delay in providing a response to your request.

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

## Please confirm whether Police Scotland have adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism.

## If so, please provide minutes of the meeting that agreed to the adoption and confirm whether or not legal advice was sought prior to adoption.

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is a body of [31 Member Countries](https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/member-countries), [ten Observer Countries](https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/observer-countries), and [seven international partner organisations](https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/permanent-observers), who do education and research work in remembrance of the Holocaust.

On 26 May 2016 the IHRA agreed the following non-legally binding [working definition of antisemitism:](http://holocaustremembrance.com/media-room/stories/working-definition-antisemitism)

*“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”*

On 12 Dec 2016 the UK Government agreed that the IHRA working definition on anti-Semitism should be formally adopted by the UK Government, law enforcement agencies and all political parties, to assist them in determining whether or not an incident or discourse can be regarded as antisemitic.

I can confirm that Police Scotland have provided guidance to Officers in relation to recognising antisemitism and this guidance has adopted the IHRA working definition of antisemitism.

In response to your request for minutes of meetings, the information is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

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.