

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2317
Date: 29 November 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.

How many man hours were used in the dig, just north of Dunoon in the search for Ms Spence body? What was the financial cost?

We are unable to provide data for the specific dig mentioned in your requested however we are able to provide data for Operation Arctic as a whole which was the Police Scotland operation to locate and recover the body of Ms Spence.

Extensive enquiries were carried out between March and July 2022, involving Police Scotland officers, specialist search teams and forensic scientists from across the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, we did not recover Ms Spence's remains or any new evidence.

The recorded costs and resources specifically associated with Operation Arctic are £1,008,255.69 and approximately 18,982 officer hours.

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 foi@scotland.pnn.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.