| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2186Responded to: 29 July 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Is there currently an open case or active criminal investigation in relation to alleged activity at South Ayrshire Council?**

In terms of section 18 of the Act, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether the information sought exists or is held by Police Scotland. Section 18 applies where the following two conditions are met:

* It would be contrary to the public interest to reveal whether the information is held.
Whilst we accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to police engagement with local authorities and other organisations delivering public services, the overwhelming public interest lies in protecting the integrity of police investigations.
* If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure.
In this instance, the following exemptions would apply:
	+ Section 34(1)(b) - Investigations
	+ Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement

Any information held for the purpose of a police investigation is exempt from disclosure, as is any information, the disclosure of which would be prejudicial to the law enforcement role of Police Scotland more generally.

Whilst we accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to police engagement with local authorities and other organisations delivering public services, the overwhelming public interest lies in protecting the integrity of police investigations.

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 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 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.