| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0965  Responded to: 12 May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to request the reports given by Police Scotland community police teams to the Stirling Mercat Cross and City Centre community council over the past five years.

## I am looking for the reports over the last five years from January 2018 to April 2023 under freedom of information legislation.

In response to your request. Please see the attached documents. Additionally, please be advised that the records provided are sparse. This is due to the community council meetings not being active for a period coupled with COVID-19 restrictions.

I must advise that it has been necessary to withhold some of the information requested, therefore, 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.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at:

Section 30(c) - Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs

Section 38(1)(b) – Personal Information

Section 30 (c) - Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs.

Where necessary some internal names / telephone numbers and email addresses have been redacted. To release these details publicly through FOI legislation could negatively impact on the operational effectiveness of various departments and external partner agencies. While it is acknowledged that the disclosure of this information would support transparency and better inform the public as to how the Service conducts its business, there are already established routes for the public to make contact with the police and the disclosure of these additional details would not support the effective conduct of public affairs. As a result, section 30(c) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 is engaged.

Section 38(1)(b) – Personal Information

Any information that could lead to the identification of individuals has been redacted. This is in accordance with Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 –Personal Information.

This mainly relates to the name and email addresses of persons who are outside Police Scotland and any staff member within Police Scotland of a more junior role (below the rank of Superintendent or Head of Department).

As such, the processing would be unfair and unlawful in respect of the individuals concerned and would therefore be in breach of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018. This is an absolute exemption, which does not require a public interest test to be conducted.

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.