| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-0948Responded to: 21 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am looking for the following information under the Freedom of Information.**

1. **Number of officers unable to carry out nightshift duty due to being afraid of the dark.  Between 01/01/24 and 01/03/2025.**
2. **Number of officers identifying as an animal and permitted to wear tails and years (Glasgow area).between 01/01/23 and 01/03/2025.**
3. **Number of officer at the Scottish Police College.  Unable to complete the beep test due to the noise of the 'beep' (instructor offering hand signals while listening through head phones or similar).  between 01/01/24 and 01/03/2025.**
4. **Number of officers issued with headphones to enable them to work with blue lights and siren being activated.  between 01/01/24 and 01/03/2025.**
5. **Total cost of seconding police staff to Shetland between 01/01/24 and 01/03/2025.  To include overtime, travel and accomodation.**

I am refusing to respond to your request on the basis that I consider it to be ‘vexatious’ in terms of section 14(1) of the Act.

‘Vexatious’ is not defined in the Act, but I would refer to the following factors as set out in the Commissioner’s guidance:

* It would impose a significant burden on the public authority.
* It does not have a serious purpose or value.
* It is designed to cause disruption or annoyance to the public authority.
* It has the effect of harassing the public authority.
* It would otherwise, in the opinion of a reasonable person, be considered manifestly unreasonable or disproportionate.

Furthermore, an authority can reasonably conclude that a particular request represents the continuation of a pattern of behaviour. It might, in those circumstances, decide the request can be refused as the continuation of the pattern of behaviour makes the latest request vexatious.

This may arise, for example, where a requester has an on-going grievance against a public authority or could reasonably be described as conducting an extended campaign to the point that their behaviour can be described as obsessive.

The purpose of FOI is to provide a right of access to recorded information, and we respond to thousands of requests each year that seek to exercise that right.

We are committed to the principles of openness and accountability and that means focusing on those requests whereby individuals are genuinely motivated by accessing the information we hold.

It is my assessment overall that your request has no serious purpose or value, and it also has the effect of placing unnecessary burden on finite Police Scotland resources which might be better used elsewhere.

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.