| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0612  Responded to: 13 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1.What training do police officers receive in dealing with members of the public, who are a suicidal risk, and may have mental issues?**

Student officers undertaking Initial Training receive an input named ‘Mental Health and Suicide Intervention’.

This comprises a total of 135 minutes delivered via 3 sessions each lasting 45 minutes.

On successful completion of the training, student officers will be able to;

* Identify the signs and symptoms that may indicate a person may be in mental distress or at risk of suicide.
* Identify appropriate actions when dealing with persons who are suffering mental health disorder or are at risk of suicide.
* State the procedures to adopt if a person with an apparent mental health illness has committed a crime or offence.
* Explain your powers and responsibilities when dealing with someone in apparent mental health crisis in public and private places.
* Explain the procedure following no admission to hospital and the recording of information.

This lesson can also be supplemented by Skill Development Exercises where students will be involved/observe an immersive learning situation where they are expected to apply the learning from the classroom environment.

To be of assistance, you may find the following SOPs of interest:

[Mental Health and Place of Safety SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/552h0t3x/mental-health-and-place-of-safety-sop.doc)  
[Suicide Prevention Guidance](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/istpgrap/suicide-prevention-guidance.doc)

**2.Do police use NPR cameras when looking for persons who are at risk of committing suicide to try and trace them?**

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available:

[Missing Person Investigation SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/nw5dkcbd/missing-person-investigation-sop-9-00-publication-version.docx)

**3.When no crime has been committed and is not suspected of being committed, and an officer has been invited into a persons home. Should the officers leave the premises when instructed by the owner /occupier do so immediately?**

As you may be aware, the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 provides a right of access to recorded information only.  Section 8 of the Act states that in order for a request to be valid, an applicant must describe the information requested - which is not the same as asking for answers to hypothetical questions or for statements regarding particular scenarios.

We are unable to offer any comment therefore as regards the matters set out above.

In terms of any pre-existing recorded information that relates to the questions posed, such information is not held, and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.​

To be of assistance, you may be interested in the following:

**​**[Police powers to stop and search, enter private property and seize goods - Citizens Advice](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/law-and-courts/legal-system-s/police-s/police-powers-to-stop-and-search-enter-private-property-and-seize-goods-s/)

[Forced Entry to Insecure Premises SOP](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/tn3p2kul/forced-entry-and-insecure-premises-sop.docx)

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.