| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1104  Responded to: 17 April 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

Protecting the public is a top priority for Police Scotland.  In Scotland Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), provides a comprehensive response to a complex issue, using professional assessment and management to properly target resources at those who pose a risk to the public.  Police Scotland works in partnership with a number of agencies through MAPPA to ensure that all Registered Sex Offenders are robustly managed within the community.  While we can never eliminate risk entirely, we want to reassure communities that all reasonable steps are being taken to protect them.

**I kindly request clarification on the criteria and methodology used by Police Scotland to assess travel risks for registered sex offenders. Specifically, I seek a detailed explanation of how risk assessments balance public safety concerns with an individual’s rehabilitation and human rights.**

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland do not have any specific criteria or methodology to assess travel risks for Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs).  When a RSO notifies of foreign travel in line with their notification requirements, Police Scotland will consider the risk posed, the reasons for travel and the overall circumstances before considering what options are necessary and proportionate to protect the public and the individual RSO.

The Human Rights of the RSO will always be considered in this risk-based decision-making process and the RSO may be provided with relevant advice by the Police prior to their travel.

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.