| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1075Responded to: 03 May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please provide a description of the term ''Not for disclosure'' in reference to data held by the organisation in relation to FOI requests made by the public under HM Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act of 2002 too this service. Please state what type of information was deemed not for disclosure, what type of information is still deemed not for disclosure if any, how many FOI requests where recommended by or to the organisations not for disclosure regime and if the secret ''Not for disclosure regime'' is still in operation today since when it was first detected by civil liberty & Press investigators during the COVID pandemic of 31/1/2020 - 31/1/2023 respectively.

## Please note my FOI is a FOI concerning an allegation by press and civil rights investigators and not an accusation by myself.

First of all, I note that your request is almost identical to request 23-1034 which appears to have been sent by you albeit from a different email address.

Given the two email addresses, both requests have been treated as valid and responded to separately but I would urge you to please avoid submitting duplicate requests in future as it only serves to waste valuable time and resource.

As you will be aware, the Act provides a right of access to *recorded information* only.

On that basis, section 17 of the Act applies and the information sought is *not held* by Police Scotland.

A formal definition of ‘not for disclosure’ is not held.

Further, we do not recognise any reference to a ‘not for disclosure regime’ within Police Scotland in relation to FOIs.

All FOI requests are handled in accordance with the relevant legislation.

All responses are published on our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log).

Data regarding our compliance with the Act is available on the [OSIC website](https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/statistics).

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/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.