| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2888Responded to: 3rd October 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you please supply me with details of the final costs incurred by Police Scotland into Operation Branchform.**

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold all of the above requested information.

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

By way of explanation, the total costs relating to any investigation, both relating to the investigation itself and the number of hours involved, are difficult to quantify as the nature of policing means that officers are deployed to wherever their services are most required.

Furthermore, the number of officers required throughout an investigation will fluctuate and officers involved in a particular investigation, or multiple investigations, can be redeployed to other duties at any time, dependant on their skillsets.

Police Scotland, may keep limited records for investigations, which record overtime costs and non-pay costs. These costs do not provide an accurate reflection of the total number of hours spent on an investigation nor do they provide, for the reasons stated above, an accurate cost for an investigation. The costs do not include, for example, officer hours where that officer would have been on duty anyway and as such are not recorded as a specific expense to a particular investigation.

However, to be of assistance, I have provided the recorded costs held by Police Scotland to costs to 31August 2025

Police Officer Salary Costs (excluding pension) – £2,153,189

Police Officer Overtime - £96,327

Police Staff Overtime - £2,962

Transport Related costs £7,691

Supplies & Services £11,020

Total - £2,271,189

**Presumably Police Scotland's costs came to a more or less abrupt conclusion when the files were passed to the Crown Office. Please confirm this is the case.**

The above costs are to 31 August 2025.

Final costs are not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

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.