| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0609  Responded to: 07 March 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## The FOI request pertains to all data relating to the decision by Police Scotland’s Force Vetting Unit to refuse our client vetting request as initiated by letter of 4 February 2025. This should include all data including the original contractual arrangements and material upon which any decision was based.

In terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether the information sought exists or is held by Police Scotland in terms of section 18 of the Act.

Section 18 applies where the following two conditions are met:

It would be contrary to the public interest to reveal whether the information is held,

If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure in terms of one or more of the exemptions set out in sections 28 to 35, 38, 39(1) or 41 of the Act.

In this instance, if the information was held, sections 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement and 38(1)(b) Personal Data of the Act would apply.

Should the type of information being assessed by the organisation during the vetting process be disclosed, it would enable those intent to circumnavigate this process to withhold or avoid disclosing relevant information needed to accurately assess suitability employment directly or via a Police Scotland contract.

Additionally, any disclosure under FOI legislation is a disclosure to the world at large, the public interest overwhelmingly lies in protecting individuals’ right to privacy and honouring their expectation of confidentiality.

This explanation noted should not be taken as indicative or conclusive evidence that the information you have requested does or does not exist.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) 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.