| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-1135Responded to: 11 June 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

* **What was the cost of policing a gathering of football fans on Trongate, Glasgow, on Saturday, May 19, 2024?**
* **What was the cost of policing a gathering of football fans on Trongate, Glasgow, on Saturday, May 27, 2023?**
* **What was the cost of policing a gathering of football fans on Trongate, Glasgow, on Saturday, May 14, 2022?**
* **What was the cost of policing a gathering of football fans in George Square, Glasgow, on Saturday, May 15, 2021?**

I can advise that Police Scotland does not hold 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 nature of policing means that officers are deployed to wherever their services are most required as such costs of policing such events are not routinely calculated.

To be of assistance I can advise that football clubs are charged for the officers policing within the stadium. If you wish to request this limited information, a new request should be submitted.

* **How many extra police officers were deployed to police the gathering on Saturday, May 19, 2024?**
* **How many extra police officers were deployed to police the gathering on Saturday, May 27, 2023?**
* **How many extra police officers were deployed to police the gathering on Saturday, May 14, 2022?**
* **How many extra police officers were deployed to police the gathering on Saturday, May 15 2021?**

I have interpreted your request as seeking the number of officers on duty at each of the events listed.

This information is considered to be exempt in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act). Section 16 of the Act requires Police Scotland to provide you with a notice which: (a) states that it holds the information, (b) states that it is claiming an exemption, (c) specifies the exemption in question and (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies. Where information is considered to be exempt, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice that information is held and an explanation of the appropriate exemption is provided.

## Section 35(1)(a) &(b) Law Enforcement

The information requested is exempt, as its disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

Release of the numbers of officers on duty could adversely impact on the operational effectiveness of the Service in policing such similar gatherings in the future. Being aware of the numbers of officers on duty and the resources utilised would allow persons or groups intent on committing offences or causing disorder with the means to make a reasonable assessment of police tactics at similar events in the future and thus to make an assessment of the capacity of the Service to deal with such eventualities. Disclosure of this information would compromise any tactical advantage the police may have over such persons or groups when dealing with any crime or disorder.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

## Section 39 (1) Health, Safety and the Environment

The information requested is exempt as its disclosure would or would be likely to endanger the physical health or safety of an individual. As previously described, to disclose the number of police officers deployed would allow those intent on committing crime or causing disorder to gauge the likelihood of detection or to take measures to negate the likelihood of detection. This could leave members of the public at an increased risk of being the victim of crime and jeopardise wider community safety.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the Public Interest Test.

## Public Interest Test

The public interest factors favouring disclosure surround the release of accurate information into the public domain for the awareness of the public and accountability for the use of police resources. Those favouring retention of the information surround the efficiency of the police service when policing gatherings such as this and public safety.

In this instance, the balance of the public interest test favours retention of the information requested as it cannot be in the greater public interest to compromise the efficiency of the service and public safety at such events.

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.