

**OFFICIAL**

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0811  
Date: 21 April 2022



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

**Please provide a full statistical count and disclosure of all and any recorded incidences or complaints of female or transgender female prostitutes alleging that they have been or are currently being persecuted for being or being thought of being a prostitute by any police officer or the police force itself. Between 20/3/2021 - 20/3/2022**

In response to this request I would reiterate that as explained in our response to FOI request 22-0509 and the related review, we can only provide information about Complaints Against the Police based on the various recording categories in use.

In terms of section 17 I can advise that *persecution on the basis of being a prostitute* is not a recording category and as such, the information sought is *not held* by Police Scotland.

I would refer you to appendices G & H of the [Complaints About the Police SOP](#) for further information.

In terms of our section 15 duty to advise and assist applicants, I would urge you to refer to that document and if there is a particular category you are interested in then to include it in any further requests.

For clarity however, I would also reiterate that as explained in our response to FOI 22-0509, there is no facility whereby the Complaints recording system can be searched on the basis of the complainer being a prostitute.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to [foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

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If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

As part of our commitment to demonstrate openness and transparency in respect of the information we hold, an anonymised version of this response will be posted to the Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.