

**OFFICIAL**

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1425  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> July 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.

**I am looking to request details of all the instances in which Police Scotland assistance was requested by personnel at Leuchars Army base, (formerly RAF Leuchars), Main Street, Leuchars, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 0JX, during the specific period between the dates of October 1, 2021 to May 1, 2022.**

**This includes all police assistance requested relating to incidents either within the grounds of the base itself or in the immediate vicinity – ie at the immediate approach to the base entrance or along the perimeter fencing/boundary.**

**This includes where Leuchars personnel may have not been able to intervene therefore contacted police for assistance in the given period.**

**I'd like to request dates, times and specific emails and details of any resulting arrests which came as a result of police attendance at the base as well as reports within the given period that exist.**

In response to your request, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, Leuchars Army base is within Police Scotland's beat 18A. 459 individual records have been identified within the area. In order to extract the information you require each record will need to be manually examined. Co-ordinates of incidents to determine proximity to the base would need to be identified and examined, employment status of the initial reporter would also need to be identified.

## OFFICIAL

With regards to arrests additional reports would need to be cross referenced with the initial incident to determine that they are one and the same crime.

To extract all of the data required, a conservative estimate is that it will take approximately 8 minutes per record resulting in an excess of 61 hours.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

This estimate does not include the time it would take to check the email mailboxes of all Fife based territorial officers. As it would exceed the cost threshold to identify which incidents were involved, it follows that the same would apply in regards to identifying officers involved to check their email inboxes.

Whilst it is not possible to identify how many mailboxes would need to be reviewed due to excessive cost, it is estimated that on average 30 minutes would be required per identified officer which would be in addition to the 8 minutes already included.

Should you wish to narrow the scope of your request by potentially reducing the time frame then Police Scotland may be able to assist further. You may also wish to consider whether the email part of the request was required.

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.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarock, G40 4EH.

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.