| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2302  Responded to: 11 August 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to gain access to the files relating to the murder of Lorna Ann Porter. Murdered in Bellshill 10.09.84

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

* Section 34(1)(b) - Investigations by a Scottish public authorities and proceedings arising out of such investigations
* Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law enforcement
* Section 38(1)(b) - Personal data
* Section 39(1) - Health and Safety

Information is exempt information if it is held by Police Scotland for the purposes of an investigation which may lead to a decision to make a report to the Procurator Fiscal to enable it to be determined whether criminal proceedings should be instituted.

Additionally, Disclosure would prejudice the detection of crime and the apprehension of offenders.

The case referred to is an unresolved homicide and it is therefore essential that any disclosure of information is via the appropriate criminal justice procedures.

It is important to note that much of the information held will be personal data, e.g. witness statements etc and we would also argue that disclosure outwith the criminal justice process would be upsetting for the family and friends of the victim.

Whilst I accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to unresolved homicides, there can be no parallel interest in jeopardising the chance of bringing an offender to justice.

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.