| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-2825  Responded to: 03 October 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information related to historic Standard Operating Procedures - specifically *Care and Welfare of Persons in Police Custody* - used by Police Scotland.**

**Could you please send me the following documents;**

**All versions of this SOP as published in the years 2013, 2014 and 2015?**

Please find attached separately the relevant versions of the Care and Welfare of Persons in Police Custody SOP active in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

As you will note, some information has been redacted, therefore, 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 30(c) - Prejudice to the Effective Conduct of Public Affairs**

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under the Act would otherwise prejudice substantially, or be likely to prejudice substantially, the effective conduct of public affairs.

In this instance department names, addresses and telephone numbers cannot be disclosed. To release these details publicly through FOI legislation could negatively impact on the operational effectiveness of the service and partner agencies.

They are used for operational/business purposes and this information has been removed in order to ensure that internal processes are protected.

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

**Public Interest Test**

Release of contact details which are not in the public domain could negatively impact on the operational effectiveness of Police Scotland and our partners. Accordingly, and to ensure that internal processes are protected this information cannot be provided.

There can be no public interest in disclosing information which would make it more difficult to offer an efficient and effective service.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.