

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1688
Date: 31 August 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 would like to request a FOI request regarding police staff working from home at this time. In this respect, could you please supply me with the number of police staff whether part-time or full time working from home and also the number of police officers working from home.

Whilst Police Scotland's System to Co-ordination Personnel and Establishment (SCOPE) does have the facility to record a person's status as 'working from home', there is no requirement for this to be completed and Police Scotland have moved towards a process whereby working from home arrangements are managed by individual line managers for their various teams.

On that basis, any attempt to provide a true figure would mean contacting, as a minimum, all Police Scotland line managers and asking them to report the status of each of their staff members on a particular day.

As such, 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.

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 therefore represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

To be of assistance, the table below provides the number of police officers and staff who were recorded as working from home on SCOPE on Monday 8 August 2022.

Please note that for the reasons outlined above, these figures are not believed to be accurate and it is likely that the actual figure is significantly higher.

Furthermore, the figures do not include individuals who may be working from home generally, but were not working on the day the report was ran (8 August 2022).

Employee Type	Total
Police Officer	66
Support Staff	62

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Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk 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 or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, 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 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.

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