

Our Ref.: IM-FOI-2022-1622
Date: 19th August 2022



Freedom of Information Request - Response

1-3 Request for Personal Data

I refer to your recent correspondence seeking access to your own personal data.

Your request is technically a **Subject Access Request (SAR)** and it will therefore be considered in terms of the Data Protection Act 2018/ GDPR as explained on our [website](#).

Our Data Protection team will contact you separately in relation to your SAR.

Because you mentioned FOI in your request, we are required by law to provide this *additional* response in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 specifically.

In terms of section 18 of that Act, I am therefore refusing to confirm or deny whether Police Scotland holds information about you. The public interest overwhelmingly lies in protecting your right to privacy and an individual's own personal information is exempt from disclosure in terms of the exemption at section 38(1)(a).

I understand that the statement above may seem confusing and/ or unhelpful in the circumstances but I would stress once again that this is the response to your FOI request only - a SAR will be progressed separately.

4. Picture of named Police Officer

I am refusing to provide you with any further information in terms of section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

- (a) states that it holds the information,
- (b) states that it is claiming an exemption,
- (c) specifies the exemption in question and
- (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested. The exemptions that I consider to be applicable to the information requested by you are:

Section 38(1)(b) - Personal Data

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

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'Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ("data subject"); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person'.

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

'Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject'

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met.

The only potentially applicable condition is set out at Article 6(1)(f) which states:

'Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child'

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information and that disclosure may well be necessary for that purpose, I am nonetheless of the view that those interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject.

On that basis, it is my view that disclosure of the information sought would be unlawful.

5. Any info on if officers can be harassed, alarmed or distressed while on official duty

In response to this part of your request, you may be interested in the following link:-

[Not part of the job - Police Scotland](#)

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](#) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalarnock, 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](#), by [email](#) 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](#) in seven days' time.

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