

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1232
Date: 20th June 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 be obliged for you to provide the following information:

- 1. The catalogue of items currently stored as lost property within Tayside Division, and the number of each item**
- 2. As above for Fife division**

In terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with a list of fully catalogued items. 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.

In this case section 35(1)(a) – Law Enforcement applies.

Section 35(1)(a) – Law Enforcement

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime by facilitating false claims for to property held by Police Scotland.

Public Interest Test

Disclosure would add to public awareness in terms of the nature and volume of property held by Police Scotland. However, disclosure would undoubtedly lead to false claims, making it more difficult to reunite property with its rightful owner, thereby potentially facilitating crime and making the job of the Police Scotland in this area more difficult.

In order to be of assistance, please see the tables below which provides a collective list of Found Property which is currently held within Police Scotland stores from 1st March 2022 – 13th June 2022.

It should be noted that these lists do not show disposed items during that period, i.e. property returned to owner, immediate disposal, returned to Passport Agency etc.

Table 1: Found Property within Tayside Police Division

Classification	Figures
Animals (<i>would be given to dog warden/kennels – not retained in stores</i>)	1
Bank and Credit Card	183
Cameras Camcorders	0
Clothing	57
Cycles	43
Documents	101
Electrical Devices	29
Firearms and Ammunition	1
Handbags Baggage	32
Jewellery (not Watches)	34
Keys and Keytainers	135
Mobile Phones	113
Money	36
Passports and Visas (<i>UK Passports are returned to the Passport Agency immediately</i>)	10
Prescribed Drugs	4
Purses and Wallets	87
Spectacles and Sunglasses	11
Watches	17
Other (<i>Any items of property that do not fall into any of the categories listed above</i>)	115

Table 2: Found Property within Fife Police Division

Classification	Figures
Antiques/Art/Rare	3
Building	2
Business Related	4
Consumables	38
Domestic Items	30
Electrical	70
Industrial / Agricultural	18
Jewellery	103
Money related	357
Personal	625
Sport/Leisure	39
Motor Vehicle	4
Vehicle Related	12
Pedal Cycle	133
Other	9
Mobile Phone	97

3. The total amount in £ from the sale or auction of lost property between January 1 2022 and May 31 2022 in Tayside division

4. As above for Fife division

In response to this part of your request I must advise you that a Police Auction includes items from all Divisional areas, and there is no way to isolate the amount of money raised for submissions from individual Police Divisions.

As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

I can however confirm that for the period January 2022 – May 2022, the Police Auctioneer, Wilsons of Dalry, have raised £12,942 from auction sales for Police Scotland.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, 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.