| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1942  Responded to: 30 August 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am looking for information about the storage and protection of confiscated drugs and other materials such as guns in police custody?

## What are the requirements, regulations and rules? What checks need to be done once the confiscated material is in evidence? What checks need done prior to it being stored?

## What do the police do to protect confiscated drugs and other materials such as guns?

**Are the courts informed when it is confiscated? If so what is the process that needs to be followed? When it is in storage what is done to ensure they are protected to avoid drugs go missing?**

All items seized are done so on behalf of the Procurator Fiscal and officers advise of what is taken in a Productions Schedule that forms part of the Standard Prosecution Report submitted by the reporting officer.

Production Management Officers who are part of Police Scotland Criminal Justice Service Division are responsible for the management of any articles seized by Police Officers during their investigations. There is a National Guidance document which provides information for Officers and staff on the processes to be followed concerning this. All Productions are stored securely with additional arrangements for high value items including drugs and firearms. These are subject to regular auditing and the chain of evidence is supported and maintained by an electronic management system.

I have provided the link below for our National Guidance document which is also available on our Police Scotland website.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/ynpd5pfw/productions-national-guidance.doc>

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.