| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-1025Responded to: 24 April 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Could I please request from Police Scotland, under the Freedom of Information legislation, the full reasons why dozens of Celtic fans were kept outside Celtic Park Stadium, at the the Celtic v Rangers match 26/3/25, before, after and for the entire period of the match.

This was for the purpose of Public safety and to prevent violence and disorder.

## How were the fans treated by Police Scotland to ensure their safety, health and well-being?

Each group had a welfare officer allocated to ensure safety, health and well being.

## What specific reasons did our officers give to explain why the fans were kept away from the stadium and not allowed in?

It was not the intention of the police to prevent fans from attending the event.  Clear messaging was provided as to why people were being detained.

## Also, why were there flares lit in the away section of the Rangers fans when there were such apparent stringent restrictions on the Celtic fans, from which as far as I could see no flares were lit or thrown for the entire match inside the stadium?

Police were responsible for searching only a small number of fans entering the stadium. The responsibility for searching fans entering the stadium sits with the Club stewards.

## What communications did you have with supporters, their clubs, groups and Celtic FC board and officials before the decision was made to restrict access to this group of fans?

This was an operational policing decision, made by police.

## Why were these particular Celtic fans targeted?

No fans were targeted.

## Last but not least, why was the regular Celtic supporter carrying the large Palestine flag not allowed in the stadium?

Celtic FC and their stewards are responsible for searching and ingress of fans.

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, 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 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.