| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2049Responded to: 11 August 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**Can you confirm that the attached have been appointed by Police Scotland? If yes, please provide documents in regards to the position being advertised and selection criteria used in making the appointment.**

**If they have not been officially appointed as force chaplains, what steps are being taken to prevent them from describing themselves as such?**

Having considered your request in terms of the Act, I am refusing to confirm or deny whether the information sought exists or is held by Police Scotland in terms of section 18.

Section 18 applies where the following two conditions are met:

* It would be contrary to the public interest to reveal whether the information is held.

Whilst we accept that there is a public interest in better informing the public as to these matters, the overwhelming public interest lies in protecting the integrity of the arrangements Police Scotland has in place.

* If the information was held, it would be exempt from disclosure in terms of at least one exemption set out in the Act. In this instance, the following exemptions apply:

Section 30(c) - Prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs

Section 38(1)(b) - Personal data

By way of explanation, a review has been commenced into the governance of the Police Scotland Chaplaincy role(s) and practice.

The future approach is currently under consideration therefore it is not possible to provide further detail at this time.

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.