| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1691  Responded to: 19th July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I would like to request information under the Freedom of Information act relating to the costs incurred by Police Scotland in searching for the remains of murder victim Lynda Spence, who was killed in West Kilbride, Ayrshire, in April 2011.

## Police Scotland carried out an additional search for Lynda's remains in Dunoon, Argyll, earlier this year following fresh information.

## I am looking to obtain an overall cost to the force relating to the search for Lynda's body since the time of her murder.

## Could you also provide the overall cost of the searches in Dunoon.

We are unable to provide data for searches in Dunoon specifically however we are able to provide data for Operation Arctic as a whole which was the Police Scotland operation to locate and recover the body of Ms Spence.

Extensive enquiries were carried out between March and July 2022, involving Police Scotland officers, specialist search teams and forensic scientists from across the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, we did not recover Ms Spence’s remains or any new evidence.

The recorded costs and resources specifically associated with Operation Arctic are £1,011,278.00 and approximately 18,330 officer hours

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.