

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2479  
Date: 01 December 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.

### **Does a Police Constable in their line of duty only ever carry out one Shoulder Number / Epauettes throughout their career with Police Scotland?**

All Police Constables have a shoulder number that is allocated to them based on where they are deployed. It will consist of a letter and four numbers (prefix 0 is not displayed). If an individual was to, for example, remain within the same local policing Division for their entire career they would retain the same shoulder number throughout their service.

### **Would there ever be the case that a constable could ever be allocated two separate Shoulder Number / Epauettes in their line of duty as a police constable?**

All Police Scotland officers have shoulder numbers as described above, they only have one that is unique to them. Some officers however will have a shoulder number and also then a unique identifier which are used for Mutual Aid deployments.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at [foidundee@scotland.police.uk](mailto:foidundee@scotland.police.uk) 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.