| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0455  Responded to: 15 May 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please provide all of the following documentation held by Police Scotland in relation to the Briefcam CCTV system:

## Business justification papers

## Use case summaries

## Data Protection Impact Assessments

## Equality Impact Assessments

## Data Sharing Agreements

## Contracts

Objection Recognition Software or Video Analytical Software, including BriefCam, is not currently operated by Police Scotland.

The use of such software and what impact this may have on Policing is currently being explored by the organisation.

As such any information held regarding justification papers, case summaries, data protection impact assessments, equality impact assessments, data sharing agreements and any contract information is in draft format. Therefore, the information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

**Section 30(b)(i)(ii) Free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views**

Information is exempt under sections 30(b)(i)(ii) if disclosure would, or would be likely to, inhibit substantially:

(i) the free and frank provision of advice or

(ii) the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation.

The exemptions in section 30(b) focus on the effect that disclosure of information would have (or would be likely to have) on the free and frank provision of advice or the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation. The sharing of this content would likely have a negative impact on the effective conduct of public affairs.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

**Section 35(a)&(b) Law Enforcement**

The documents requested contain data that provide insight into Police Scotland’s current capabilities. To disclose this information would be of use to those with criminal intent, allowing them to more effectively execute their criminal plans or avoid detection.

One of the main purposes of the Police Service is to prevent crime but to release this information would be contrary to that purpose.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

## Public Interest Test

It could be argued that there is a public interest in disclosure of such information as it would contribute to greater transparency and openness. That said, this must be tempered against what is of interest to the public and what is in the public interest.

Although the Act does not define the public interest it has been described as “something which is of serious concern and benefit to the public,” not merely something of individual interest.

I would contend that any consultation document is in draft format and that such information is always subject to change. It is not appropriate for early drafts or amendments to be made publicly available as this discussion process is vital to ensure that all stakeholders viewpoints and opinions are gathered in a transparent and open manner without the fear of these workings being released.

Additionally, it is doubtful it could ever be in the public interest to disclose information which would jeopardise the delivery of policing and the safety of individuals and prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.