| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-1801Responded to: 07 July 2025 |
| --- | --- |

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

**A-Malawi and Zambia – Gender Based Violence and Protection of Children Programme 2016, Scottish Government Minister for International Development and Europe signed off funding from the International Development Fund for 2016-19 for Police Scotland International Development Unit to deliver capacity strengthening work with the Malawi Police Service in the south of Malawi.**

**B-Malawi and Zambia – Protection of Vulnerable Groups Programme 2019,
Scottish Government Minister for Europe, Migration and International Development signed off funding from the International Development Fund for the next phase of the Police Scotland programme to be carried out in Malawi and Zambia.**

**For the above programmes, please set out:**

* **The number of Police Scotland officers who were sent to a) Malawi and b) Zambia under this scheme.**
* **Please set out the duration of time each Police Scotland officer was there for. You might like to set this out by creating a table. For example 4 officers – up to 2 weeks, 6 officers – up to three weeks, etc.**
* **Please provide a breakdown of flight costs for Police Scotland officers travelling a) to and b) from i) Malawi and ii) Zambia.**
* **Please breakdown how many of those flights were a) economy b) business class c) first class.**
* **Please provide a breakdown of how much Police Scotland paid hotels for accommodation in those countries. I would like to know the names and star-ratings. It might be useful to provide an excel spreadsheet with ‘hotel’ ‘star-rating’ and ‘spend’ as entries.**
* **How many hotel nights in total have been paid for?**
* **Please provide a breakdown of expenses claimed on these trips. This would include – but not be limited to – food/restaurant costs.**

I can advise that given the passage of time the information sought above is no longer held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

To assist we can provide the following general information as regards the policy for Scottish Government work.

* **Please provide a breakdown of flight costs for Police Scotland officers travelling a) to and b) from i) Malawi and ii) Zambia.**

Flights cost in the region of £900- £1450.

* **Please breakdown how many of those flights were a) economy b) business class c) first class.**

All flights purchased are economy.

* **Please provide a breakdown of how much Police Scotland paid hotels for accommodation in those countries. I would like to know the names and star-ratings. It might be useful to provide an excel spreadsheet with ‘hotel’ ‘star-rating’ and ‘spend’ as entries.**

Hotels are 3 and 4 star. Hotel names would not be provided for security reasons. Hotels cost in the region of £75 - £100 in Zambia and £125 -175 in Malawi. Deployments would typically last for a period of 16 days with 14 days accommodation required.

* **Please provide a breakdown of expenses claimed on these trips. This would include – but not be limited to – food/restaurant costs.**

Expenses that could be claimed included meals, soft drinks and laundry. All officers would be provided with the HMRC subsistence rates for international travel which would covers any such expenses. At the time of these deployments, this was in the region of £18 - £22 per day. Deployments would typically last for a period of 16 days.

**C-Zambia – ICT Programme to Support Gender Based Violence Recording / Investigation 2021, Scottish Government Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development signed off funding from the International Development Fund to modernise Information and Communication Technology (‘ICT’) systems used by Zambia’s Police Service to support recording and investigation of gender based violence (similar to the ICT project funded in Malawi in 2020).**

**For the above programme, please set out:**

* **The number of Police Scotland officers who were sent to Zambia under this scheme.**
* **Please set out the duration of time each Police Scotland officer was there for. You might like to set this out by creating a table. For example 4 officers – up to 2 weeks, 6 officers – up to three weeks, etc.**
* **Please provide a breakdown of flight costs for Police Scotland officers travelling a) to and b) from Zambia.**
* **Please breakdown how many of those flights were a) economy b) business class c) first class.**
* **Please provide a breakdown of how much Police Scotland paid hotels for accommodation in those countries. I would like to know the names and star-ratings. It might be useful to provide an excel spreadsheet with ‘hotel’ ‘star-rating’ and ‘spend’ as entries.**
* **How many hotel nights in total have been paid for?**
* **Please provide a breakdown of expenses claimed on these trips.**

There was no travel to Zambia undertaken by Police Scotland in relation to this programme, therefore the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

To explain, in 2021 there was a pause in the programme due to Covid.
Having checked our records for period 2022, ICT work for Zambia was discussed as one option however the final grant award only covered core elements of the proposal and funding did not extend to additional work identified within the wider proposal.

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.