| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-3128Responded to: 23 September 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I wish to apply for the files, under the freedom of information, in relation to the murder of Eliza Connelly.**

**This happened in Dundee at her home address in April, 1981**

Due to the matter being an Unresolved Homicide investigation, while the information sought is held by Police Scotland, I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the following exemptions apply:

## Section 34 (1)(b) - Investigations

Information is exempt information if it has at any time been held by Police Scotland for the purposes of an investigation which may lead to a decision to make a report to the Procurator Fiscal to enable it to be determined whether criminal proceedings should be instituted.

## Section 35(1)(a) & (1)(b) - Law Enforcement

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

## Section 38(1)(b) - Personal data

Insofar as you have requested third party personal data, disclosure of which would contravene the data protection principles set out in the Act.

## Section 39(1) - Health and Safety

Disclosure would endanger the mental health of members of the public.

Whilst I appreciate the reasons why you might wish this information, I also have to consider the wider implications of the public release, as a release of information under this Act is, essentially, a release of such sensitive information into the public domain.

Public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding police investigations and the police handling of such enquiries.

Nevertheless, the efficient and effective conduct of the service and public safety favours retention of the information as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement.

Disclosure could lead to a situation whereby the ability of Police Scotland to effectively investigate serious crime is compromised as a result of individuals being less willing to engage with the process for fear that the details will emerge publicly.

Accordingly, in this case it is assessed that the public interest lies firmly in refusing disclosure.

I would advise that Police Scotland never consider an Unresolved Homicide as closed, and that if any information is received, it will be assessed and acted on appropriately.

To be of assistance, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) have procedures in place to provide bereaved families with information about the death of their loved one and details can be found in their [Family Liaison Charter](https://www.copfs.gov.uk/publications/the-family-liaison-charter/) and [Guide for Bereaved Families](https://www.copfs.gov.uk/services/bereavement-support/guide-for-bereaved-family-members/).

You can contact them as follows: \_EnquiryPoint@copfs.gov.uk

COPFS, 25 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LA.

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.