



## LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

8 May 2024

2024/25-021

## Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

### Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 6 May, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

“Quote

The Scottish Police Authority's role is to maintain policing, promote policing principles and continuous improvement of policing, and to hold the Chief Constable of Police Scotland to account.

Please consider carefully if your request would be better directed to Police Scotland.

End quote

To ask SPA how many requests made to SPA were advised to be directed to Police Scotland

In

May 2022

In

May 2023

In

April 2024”

### Response

The Scottish Police Authority has considered your request for information and is able to provide the following information.

You have quoted from the website 'What Do They Know'. This states the role of the Authority and asks that requesters consider if their request is best directed to the Authority (a policing body) or Police Scotland (a police force).

For added context, the FOI Act requires authorities to provide reasonable advice and assistance to requesters. The Authority takes a positive and proactive approach to this duty and advises requesters where Police Scotland, or other authorities, may hold information in relation to their request. Examples are requests relating to operational policing matters, crime statistics, or where Police Scotland perform a function for both authorities, e.g. procurement, estates.

In terms of responses issued by the Authority where advice included that Police Scotland may hold information. This information can reasonably be obtained.<sup>1</sup> All FOI responses are published on the [Disclosure Log](#) on our website.

To assist, we have summarised below for the months stated, the number of responses where advice included that Police Scotland may hold information.

May 2022 - 2  
May 2023 - 7  
April 2024 - 13

### **Right to Review**

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome, you can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days. You must specify the reason for your dissatisfaction and submit your request to [foi@spa.police.uk](mailto:foi@spa.police.uk) or by letter to Scottish Police Authority, 1 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1DZ.

If you remain dissatisfied after review, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months. You can apply [online](#), by email to [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter to Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Commissioner's decision, you can appeal to the Court of Session, only if you think the law has not been applied correctly.

This response will be posted to our [Disclosure Log](#) after seven days.

Yours faithfully

### **SPA Corporate Management**

---

<sup>1</sup> This represents a notice in terms of Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - where information is already available, there is no need to provide an alternative right of access to it through FOISA.