



LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

12 December 2022

2022-087

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 9 December, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to ask that you please disclose to me the operation names of any large scale protest action that you have been called out to as a force over the last two calendar years (2021, and 2022).

It is only basic details of these operations I require. I'm not asking for internal documents, workings, technologies used, number of officers deployed, cost of this, or anything other than the following:

Operation name, date, the name of the group involved (this could span anything from white nationalists to environmentalists - XR, BLM, National Action, EDL, NBU, Insulate Britain, Women's Rights marches, anti-military Marches like the anti-Elbit Systems action recently, and things like this).

I'd also like to know what constitutes a "large scale operation" please. I have been made aware that forces may not be able to answer, for example, questions about smaller operations like protests of one person, so I've been advised by multiple forces that large scale operations carry a much higher chance of being answerable within cost limit.

Again, dates, and the focus of the action, and if possible (within cost limit) the amount of people arrested during these actions in the limited 24 month period is all the information I am seeking for this request.

If possible, and if it isn't exempt, I'd also like a list (if it exists in this format) of the groups that are of most interest to you regarding these large scale operations, or which exist on a list of monitored groups, again this could include any type of organisation but I'm really only looking for the bare bones basics of the most of note (top ten, or top five) groups that are of concern to your force.

Response

Your request for information has been considered and the Scottish Police Authority is able to provide the following:

The Authority does not hold the information you have requested. Therefore, this represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

The Scottish Police Authority provides governance and oversight of policing in Scotland and does not hold information on operational policing matters.

Information may be available by contacting Police Scotland, as the constabulary responsible for policing across Scotland. Information on how to make a request to Police Scotland is available at –

[Freedom of Information - Police Scotland](#)

Right to Review

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with 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@spa.police.uk or by post to Corporate Management Team, Scottish Police Authority, 1 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1DZ.

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 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 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 Scottish Police Authority Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.