

11 May 2022

2022-030

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

REQUEST DETAILS

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 4 May, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

Under FOI

1. what is the purpose of the SPA ?
2. How much tax payers money is spent funding the SPA

RESPONSE

Your request for information has been considered and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is able to provide the following;

In regard to your first request:

What is the purpose of the SPA.

The information requested, as to the purpose of the Scottish Police Authority (SPA), is publicly accessible on the website under [About Us](#), as well as in the founding legislation, the [Police and Fire Reform \(Scotland\) Act 2012](#) (both are hyperlinked for assistance).

The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 created the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and set out its five core functions:

- to maintain the Police Service;
- to promote the policing principles set out in the 2012 Act;
- to promote and support continuous improvement in the policing of Scotland;
- to keep under review the policing of Scotland; and
- to hold the Chief Constable to account for the policing of Scotland.

The SPA is also responsible for the management and delivery of Forensic Services in Scotland.

In regard to your second request:

How much tax payers money is spent funding the SPA.

The Scottish Police Authority has a statutory duty to set and approve a budget for policing in Scotland within the allocation provided by the Scottish Government. The allocation provided for 2022-23 is publically available and was also presented at a meeting of the Authority on 23 March 2022, for which papers and a livestream are available via the link provided below –

<https://www.spa.police.uk/meetings/authority-meetings/23-march-2022/>

The report for item 8, the [Scottish Police Authority Budget 2022/23](#), shows a total funding allocation of £1,332.8m (see page 7). Of the total funding, £4.7m is allocated to SPA Corporate and £40.8m allocated to SPA Forensic Services (see page 10). A breakdown of these funding allocations is provided on page 16 and shows movement from 21/22 to 22/23.

Approval and agreement of the allocations noted above was published on 23 March 2022 in a news item on the SPA website and is linked for assistance - <https://www.spa.police.uk/news/1-3-billion-budget-set-for-policing/>

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.

Yours sincerely