



LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

18 May 2023

2023/24-010

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 17 May, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

I would like data about stop and search practices in Scotland in respect of children.

I would like to know if Police Scotland's policy of ending non-statutory stop and search in respect of under 12s still applies?

I would like a copy of any policy documents or guidance for police officers relating to stop and search in respect of children in Scotland?

I would like to see any data on the number of times children in Scotland were strip searched in the period of 12 months leading up to the date of this request (17 May 2023).

Response

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

The Scottish Police 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 matters. A general update on [stop and search](#) provided to the Authority's Policing Performance Committee in June 2022 may be of interest to you.

We would advise that Police Scotland is the constabulary responsible for policing across Scotland. Information may be available by contacting Police Scotland and detail on how to make a request is available on their website – [Freedom of Information - Police Scotland](#)

Also, to assist, links are provided to stop and search information which is publicly accessible on Police Scotland's website:

[Stop and Search Policy](#)
[Stop and Search Standard Operating Procedure](#)
[How we do it - Stop and Search](#)

You may also wish to refer to Police Scotland's Disclosure Log, where there are a number of responses related to stop and search – [Disclosure Log - Police Scotland](#)

Information on Stop and Search in Scotland is also available on the [Scottish Government](#) website.

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.