



## LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

20 June 2024

2024/25-033

### Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

#### Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 3 June, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

To whom it may concern, procedures in Scotland stipulate that all arrested foreign national offenders, including asylum seekers, will be photographed, fingerprinted and subject to the taking of samples in the same way as any other arrested person. When an asylum seekers' fingerprint impressions have been obtained, the relevant custody supervisor should contact staff at the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and arrange for a copy of the fingerprints to be sent to New Scotland Yard.

As such, can you tell me:

- 1) In each of the last three financial years (up to 31 March 2024) and so far this financial year, how many times has the SPA sent asylum seekers' fingerprint impressions to New Scotland Yard? Please break the figures down for each year. Please also state how many individuals had their fingerprint impressions sent in each year (to confirm the number of individuals involved each year).
- 2) If possible, please provide a breakdown for the last year to give an indication as to the types of crimes committed by the asylum seekers whose fingerprint impressions were provided to New Scotland Yard.

#### Response

The Scottish Police Authority has considered your request and can confirm that it does not hold information.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

Forensic Services have no record of receiving any enquiries from Police Scotland custody division to forward fingerprints of asylum seekers to New Scotland Yard.

### **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**