



LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

8 February 2023

2023-005

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Request

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 16 January, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

I am looking for the following information under FOI as it relates to early evidence kits in rape cases between the calendar years of 2015 and 2022:

- 1) How many early evidence kits were used?
- 2) What was the longest wait for a kit to be fully processed during that time frame?
- 3) How many kits took more than six months to be processed?
- 4) How many kits took longer than 12 months to process?
- 5) How many kits remain outstanding?
- 6) Of those that remain outstanding, how long was the longest wait?
- 7) Of those that remain outstanding, what was the average wait time?

Response

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

SPA Forensics Services do not use a single 'early evidence kit' for rape cases. There is no standard convention for labelling a sample as 'early evidence'. Therefore, the information requested is not held and this represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 - Information not held.

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.