

24 June 2008

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 0460/2008

Alastair Manderson

E mail:- request-606-bfbfd4b2@whtdotheyknow.com

Force Disclosure Unit  
Police Headquarters  
173 Pitt Street  
GLASGOW  
G2 4JS

Tel: 0141 435 1204

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Dear Mr Manderson

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NUMBER 0460/2008**

I refer to your request for information dated 25 May 2008, which was received by Strathclyde Police on that date. Your request has now been considered and on 24 June 2008, a decision was made to grant your request in full. As such, the information you have requested is detailed below.

*I would like you to provide me with details of how many police hours were spent policing football matches between the Rangers Football Club and the Celtic Football Club at Ibrox/Parkhead and also the National Stadium. Since 2002.*

During the period stipulated 48, 192 hours police hours have been spent at policing Celtic v Rangers matches at Celtic Park. Both Ibrox Stadium and Hampden Park are situated within the same police division and a combined total of approx 57, 120 police hours were spent policing these fixtures at these venues over the period that you have stipulated.

*I also wish to be provided with how many brave officers were injured as a result of this fixture.*

In accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, when a police officer suffers an injury on duty, irrespective of the cause, the matter is reported to the Force Safety Officer. Prior to 2005 this process was carried out through the submission of a paper form and records for this period remain as paper based files. To extract the information you request for this period would require the physical examination of individual paper records to establish if the injury to the person concerned was attributable to duties in connection with a Celtic v Rangers fixture.

For the period between 2002 and 2005 this would require the examination of several thousand individual records. As I am sure you can appreciate the cost in undertaking this task would vastly exceed the £600 prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act.

By way of assistance however, since 2005 the system of reporting an injury has been computerised. Conducting a 'keyword', search on this system that for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005 to date shows that four officers have reported injuries in connection with duties at Celtic v Rangers fixtures. Two officers were injured as a result of missiles being thrown, one as a result of a fall and another as a result of moving a weight.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Strathclyde Police. Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact me directly on 0141 435 1204 quoting the reference number given.

I hope this information is helpful, however, if you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with, you are entitled in the first instance to request a review of the decision made by the Force. Should you wish to request such a review, please write to Mrs Sheena Brennan, Disclosure Manager at the above address within 40 working days of receiving this letter.

Once informed of the Review Panel's decision, if you are still not satisfied, then you are entitled to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. Contact details are; Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, telephone 01334 464610.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in Strathclyde Police. Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact me directly on 0141 435 1204 quoting the reference number given.

Yours sincerely

John Cameron  
Sergeant