

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2016-0925  
Date: 15 April 2016



## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002**

I refer to your recent request for information which has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

For ease of reference, your request is replicated below together with the response.

**I am writing to ask if you could supply me with information regarding UFO sightings that have been reported to Police Scotland (and its predecessors) that have taken place / been reported in the Dumfries and Galloway area.**

**The information I would like to see would be; Date of the sighting Time of the sighting Date of the report being made to police Scotland (or its predecessors) Time of the report being made to police Scotland (or its predecessors) Location of Sighting Description of the object**

Having considered (your request/ these questions/ this question) in terms of the Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, I would advise that whilst Police Scotland is moving towards the implementation of one system across the country, it currently remains the case that some of the fourteen Police Scotland divisions continue to use different recording systems in relation to the recording of crimes and incidents. Whilst there are of course significant high-level similarities between the systems used across the country to allow for, for example, the recording of crimes and associated detection rates, the differences when it comes to researching far more specific information are such that some information simply cannot be gathered accurately.

To clarify, the only way to provide you with this information in an accurate and consistent manner would be to individually examine each and every incident to identify if they make any reference to UFO sightings. There is no specific marker or field that could be used to extract incidents relating to UFOs.

Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact Information Management Dundee on 01382 596657 quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been dealt with, you are entitled in the first instance, and within 40 working days of receiving this response, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Should you wish to do so, please contact us at the following address, stating what has caused your dissatisfaction and what you require us to review:

Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH - [foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision.

Contact details are; Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS - [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)

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.