

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2020-1857
Date: 23 November 2020



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 - INTERNAL REVIEW

In accordance with section 20(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I understand that you have requested a review of the decision communicated to you on 5 November 2020 in respect of your original request for information, received 21 October 2020.

Original Request

Police Scotland will be aware that complex family breakdowns can lead to children being separated from one of their parents, whilst that separated parent still has obligations and a duty of care to their child under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995. Police Scotland will be aware that domestic abuse, violence, and coercive control is not a one of incident and this has been happening over a period of 15 years.

Police Scotland could imagine a situation where a the now non-primary caregiving parent is separated by their child by a process of hearsay evidence vexatious and malicious allegations being accumulated by a local authority social work department system. Such population of social work systems could have occurred through the actions of an Inter-Agency Discussion (a so called IRD) which is a non-statutory (REFERENCE THE FOISA FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT) meeting between Police Scotland, the local authority Social Work Department and potentially other agencies. Social work systems could also be populated with false information coming from the Police Scotland interim Vulnerable Persons Database (iVPD) and other voluntary organisations, with no evidence and a full acquittal of the false and vexatious allegations made by the now primary care giver, third parties and the coercion of children.

A now non-primary caregiving parent may have significant and severe evidence of domestic abuse using coercive control of children, child protection concerns pertaining to their child and the actions and conduct of the now primary care giving parent.

Police Scotland could imagine that the non-primary caregiving parent could have significant evidence associated with sexual impropriety of the now primary care giving parent during the course of their employment.

Earlier issues with a child reported on social work systems may suggest that a child was being coercively controlled by the now caregiving parent and there may be concerns around sexual abuse, due to allegations of the child acting out sexual conduct on another child, which was investigated by the police and although no disclosure was made, the investigating officer was convinced beyond doubt that the child had experienced sexual abuse from the now primary caregiving parent.

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The non-primary caregiving parent may believe that aspects of coercion mechanisms described in the Biderman Chart are being employed and that their child is manifesting "acting out" behaviours as a reaction to the conduct of the primary care giving parent, and elements of Stockholm Syndrome have been witnessed and there is corroboration of such, and the abuse may still be being perpetuated.

Under FOISA 2002 please provide me with the information contained in your records as follows:

What is the formal process whereby a now non-primary caregiving parents enacts their obligations under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, and the Domestic Abuse Scotland Act, to make a report of domestic abuse by the use of sustained coercive control for their child/children, and third parties? whilst the background given above explains that multi agency gate keeping is in place by the use of inaccurate, false and libellous data iVPD/VPD based on malicious falsehoods and hearsay without any evidence, which is in free flow transmission through every agency, and the urgency of the situation being the paramount wellbeing of the child is not being given any cognisance nor is the evidential reports by the now non care giving parent, who is the sustained victim of severe domestic violence with records held in a court of law as to previous corroborated domestic violence, and who is in effect 'STATE alienated' by the Scottish Government and her funded partner agencies including Third Sector Organisations and NGO's, as Police Scotland are failing to act on legitimate reports of crimes with substantial evidence?

Request for Review

I am writing to request an internal review of Police Scotland's handling of my FOI request 'Formal process of having domestic abuse, by coercion of children and third parties being acted upon as legitimate criminality with much evidence.'

I am dissatisfied with your response because the custom and practice of your police officers, moreover the actions of senior officers is more than disturbing, as they simply ignore any form of reporting which is in complete contradiction to your SOP which you refer too. Your officers refuse to protect genuine domestic abuse victims and their children, on order from the lead for the new Domestic Abuse Scotland Act Superintendent Gordon MacCreadie and a Chief Inspector of a county command his Detective Inspector of his DV unit, because the behaviour of your police officers was complained about.

To clarify your officers are putting a DA victim and minors at risk to conceal the erroneous actions of your officers in concealing the truth about legitimate complaints made through your complaints system which is not fit for purpose, and have subsequently embarked on a witch-hunt and acted on knowingly false reports against the victim and populated concern reports with inaccurate and libellous data unlawfully, and shared this information with other agencies, and not acting on any child protection reporting at all.

My role is to consider the response issued and determine whether or not your request was handled in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

As part of the review, I am also required to consider the quality of the administrative process applied to your request and I am pleased to record no deficiency in that regard.

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In reviewing the response I have studied all documentation relevant to the request, including that which documents both the research carried out and the decision making process.

I would stress that all information/ comment other than your actual request for information will be disregarded in the context of responding to your FOI requests.

Your dissatisfaction seems to stem from the fact that you allege officers do not act in accordance with Police Scotland guidance.

I would advise you that for a review request to be valid, an applicant must state the reason for their dissatisfaction **with the response to the FOI request**.

Dissatisfaction with Police Scotland generally and/ or the actions of police officers will not normally amount to grounds for a review of an FOI response.

Notwithstanding the above, you asked for details of how an individual can raise concerns regarding a child/ domestic abuse and you were provided with such information.

On that basis, I am satisfied that your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and in terms of section 21(4)(a) of the Act, I uphold the original response.

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

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of this 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 Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, there is an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.