

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2018-1771
Date: 17 September 2018



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 – INTERNAL REVIEW

In accordance with section 20(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, you have requested a review of the decision communicated to you on 20 August 2018 in respect of your original request for information, received 23 July 2018.

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.

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.

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.

I acknowledge that Police Scotland have not had cause to exempt or withhold information associated with your request and that you appear to seek a review based on your belief that one question remains unanswered and our response issued to a further question requires further clarity.

I note you have sought the definition of wellbeing within the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012, given the Supreme Court ruling. However, I should point out that the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act refers to the provision of recorded information held by a public authority. It appears your question refers to the interpretation of the legal statute and wording from the Supreme Court, which I am unable to review or comment further.

Whilst I acknowledge a response has been issued that explains the workings of the Concern hubs in reviewing, triaging and sharing the information, however, I agree the response may benefit with further clarity on the requirements for the recording of data on our interim vulnerable persons database.

Our requirements are as follows:

The interim Vulnerable Persons Database is an incident based Database that allows officers to follow Police Scotland policies by recording concerns, which may be a risk to a person's current or future wellbeing. Concerns are recorded under the following categories:

- Child Concerns (including Child Protection)
- Domestic Abuse
- Adult Concerns (including Adult Protection)
- Hate Concerns
- Youth Offending
- No concern/Not applicable

The Interim Vulnerable Persons Database is the mechanisms for Police Scotland to share information with key statutory (and on occasions with non-statutory) agencies.

Taking all of the above into account, 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 with modified explanations.

Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact Information Management – Edinburgh on 0131 311 3901 quoting the reference number given.

If you remain dissatisfied following the review of this case, you then have six months in which you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner who can be contacted as follows:

Online appeal service - www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610
Email: 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.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wallace
Lead Disclosure Officer