

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2018-2426
Date: 9th November 2018



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.

How do verbal warnings differ from, administratively, from recorded police warnings? For example are both types recorded on the CHS and are verbal warnings held on the crime recording system?

Police Warnings disposals currently and historically recorded on CHS include:

RECORDED POLICE WARNING
POLICE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WARNING
POLICE STREET WARNING (PROSTITUTES)
SENIOR POLICE OFFICER'S WARNING
SENIOR POLICE OFFICER'S WARNING (PROSTITUTES)
POLICE WARNING
POLICE WARNING FOR MINOR OFFENCE (NO REPORT TO PF)
VERBAL WARNING
WARNING LETTER

Recorded Police Warnings are the currently used disposal complying with Lord Advocates Guidance and enabling discretionary use of police powers to issue warnings.

Police Warning disposals other than Recorded Police Warnings are historical disposals albeit still technically available for use. All are treated the same in terms of recording, retention and weeding; see [Recording, Weeding and Retention of Information on Criminal History System \(CHS\) \(PDF\)](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/policies-and-procedures/guidance) available at <http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/policies-and-procedures/guidance>

Crimes are recorded in line with the Scottish Crime Recording Standard and where a crime has occurred it will be recorded on the relevant crime recording system. Where a Recorded Police Warning has been issued as a means of disposal with regards to a crime, the crime will be updated to this effect. This will in turn be recorded on CHS and will be weeded from CHS at the end of the retention period.

Historic disposals of crimes recorded on crime recording systems may have included the ability to issue a 'verbal warning' however in compliance with the Lord Advocates Guidance, Recorded Police Warnings is now the standardised approach.

Should you require any further assistance concerning this matter please contact Information Management - Stirling on 01786 456321 quoting the reference number given.

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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

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. You can raise an appeal using the online service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal or by writing to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via email at 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.

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 Police Scotland Freedom of Information [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

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