

SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY

1 Pacific Quay
Glasgow
G51 1DZ
Tel: 0141 585 8300
Fax: 0141 331 1596

request-311606-eb6f63a9@whatdotheyknow.com

16 February 2016

SPA 008-2015

Dear Applicant

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

REQUEST DETAILS

Please find below our response to your correspondence dated 19 January 2016, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

Is there any kind of protective anonymous reporting unit in place, or planned, for police officers and staff to air grievances and bring attention to problems in practices, contract, policy and/or ethics breaches, etc., internal or external to Police Scotland. If so, please detail.

If none is in place or planned, why not, and how does a person go about getting one set in place that would protect the reporting individual, their privacy, anonymity and protect the integrity of both complaint and process.

RESPONSE

Your request for information has been considered and the Scottish Police Authority (SPA) is able to provide the following.

Within Police Scotland there is a system called 'Integrity Matters' which is a confidential mechanism for police officers and staff to bring attention to problems in practices, contract, policy and/or ethics breaches.

It has been widely publicised within both Police Scotland and the Scottish Police Authority, and is formally reported through the SPA Audit and Risk Committee.

The last time that this came before the committee was on 19 January 2016 and the relevant presentation paper can be accessed at:

<http://www.spa.police.uk/meetings-events/audit-and-risk-committee/arc2016/326118/>

It does not replace the formal grievance process which is also in place, with documented Standard Operating Procedures which are contained within the Police Scotland Intranet.

I trust you will find this information to be in order, 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 an internal review of the decision made by SPA. Should you wish to request such a review, please write to the Head of Information Management within 40 days of receiving this letter.

If, after receiving the internal review response, you remain dissatisfied, you have six months within which you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner;

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

Yours sincerely

Information Management