

SCOTTISH POLICE SERVICES AUTHORITY

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Glasgow
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T: [REDACTED]
www.spsa.police.uk

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Reference: 039-2013

Date: 22nd February 2013

Dear Ms Dussud

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

REQUEST DETAILS

Please find below our response to your correspondence received on 13th February 2013, in which you made the following request under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002:

1. What legislation governs the use of equipment at the disposal of police forces in protest situations?
2. What types of equipment are police forces permitted to use in protest situations? (For example: batons, shields, water cannons, rubber bullets, etc.)
3. For all the equipment types available for use by police officers in situations of protest that are supplementary to normal police equipment, please provide me with data including:
 - a. The number of items in the possession of police forces for each equipment type;
 - b. The amount of times that such equipment types have been used in the last five years;
4. What guidance and training are police provided with on use of equipment for dealing with protest? Please send a copy or direct website link to any guidance documents regarding the use of force in such situations.
5. Has the police or government compiled any evaluation reports on the policing of protests in the past five years? If so, please send a copy of the evaluation documents or direct me to the direct on-line link.

RESPONSE

Your request for information has been considered and on this occasion, the Scottish Police Services Authority (SPSA) is unable to provide the following information:

Unfortunately, we are unable to assist you on this occasion. The Scottish Police Services Authority is not an operational police organisation and as such does not hold the information requested. This response therefore represents a notice in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, that information relating to cautions, penalty notices and user satisfaction surveys is not held.

Your request should be directed to one or all of the eight Scottish Police Forces who are best placed to assist you with your request. Please follow the link below to the Scottish Police Services website;

<http://www.scottish.police.uk/mainframe.htm>

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 SPSA. Should you wish to request such a review, please write to the Head of Legal & Compliance at [REDACTED] PSA.pnn.police.uk 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

SPSA Legal and Compliance Department