| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1009  Responded to: 15 May 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## 1. The number of police officers in your force who made one arrest or more in 2022

## 2. The number of police officers in your force who performed a stop and search one or more times in 2022

## 3. The total number of arrests made by your force in 2022

In accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, there is no easy way to extract this from our recording systems as each Police Officers across Scotland would need to be individually looked at to pull this information. There is no central recording system which would hold this information.

To explain, Police Scotland currently has in excess of 17,000 police officers and it is clear that it would take in excess of the £600 and 40 hours prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act to identify this information. I can find no overwhelming public interest in this case, which would allow me to justify such expense.

## 4. The total number of stop and searches performed by your force in 2022

In response to your request, please be advised that the above requested information is publicly available on our website:

[Data Publication - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/stop-and-search/data-publication/)

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

(a) states that it holds the information,

(b) states that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) specifies the exemption in question and

(d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.