| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1040Responded to: 03 May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## - How many deaths has the force investigated where the cause of death was ingestion of sodium nitrite/sodium nitrate, in each of the following years: 2021; 2022; 2023.- Of those deaths, how many involved a sodium nitrite/sodium nitrate supplier called [imtimecuisine.com](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fimtimecuisine.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cfoi%40scotland.police.uk%7C77e1e3a850cc42639d2508db3f385098%7C6795c5d3c94b497a865c4c343e4cf141%7C0%7C0%7C638173283321247083%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TOn9Qv9EtCqwu6Jx0Pifeuy6wAIyLfjoeSaB0mjVWqs%3D&reserved=0)

I must advise you first of all that National Records of Scotland publish information on deaths in Scotland:

https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths

I can advise you that sudden death reports are submitted by Police Scotland to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

In respect of those, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations. As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

By way of explanation, the systems that we have in place, cannot search death reports to COPFS by the *alleged* circumstances of the death, meaning each report would have to be individually assessed - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulation given the scope of your request.

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 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 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.