

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2763
Date: 11 January 2023



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.

My request relates to the statistics in the Police Scotland firearms licensing annual statistical publication for national firearms and explosives 2021/22.

- 1. Table one refers to 7 firearms certificate applications being refused in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 2. Table one refers to 5 refused renewals in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 3. Table one refers to 5 revocations in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 4. Table two refers to 13 shotgun certificate applications being refused in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 5. Table two refers to 2 refused renewals in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 6. Table two refers to 31 revocations in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 7. Table three refers to 4 air weapon certificate applications being refused in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 8. Table three refers to 1 refused renewals in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**
- 9. Table three refers to 21 revocations in Inverness. What were the reasons given in each case?**

In response to your request, I can advise you that the annual statistics are automatically produced and does not provide a breakdown for each certificate. The licensing system SHOGUN is live and once a report is generated it is not possible to produce the same figures from a different time period.

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.

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By way of explanation, each individual application for financial year 2021/22 would have to be manually examined to establish whether it was refused or revoked and the reasons - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To be of assistance, refusals and revocations only sit under certain criteria within the Firearms Act 1968 and the Air Weapon Scotland Act 2015.

FIREARM REFUSAL: Section 27 of the Firearms Act 1968

SHOTGUN REFUSAL: Section 28 of the Firearms Act 1968

AIR WEAPON REFUSAL: Section 5 of the Air Weapon and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015

FIREARM REVOCATION: Section 30A of the Firearms Act 1968

SHOTGUN REVOCATION: Section 30C of the Firearms Act 1968

AIR WEAPON REVOCATION: Section 11 of the Air Weapon and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015. 7 days' notice must be given to certificate holder.

You may find our published Firearm Licensing SOP useful:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/ovek4ix1/firearms-licensing-psos-sop-13-10-21.doc>

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk quoting the reference number given.

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Police Scotland has dealt with your request, you are entitled, in the first instance, to request a review of our actions and decisions.

Your request must specify the matter which gives rise to your dissatisfaction and it must be submitted within 40 working days of receiving this response - either by email to foi@scotland.police.uk or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH.

If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of that review, you are thereafter entitled to apply to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months for a decision. You can apply [online](#), by email to enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info or by post to Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS.

Should you wish to appeal against the Office of 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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