| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-0312  Responded to: 23 February 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**1. How many children aged under 18 have went missing in Scotland in 2021 and 2022? Breakdown by month, how long they were missing for, what region they went missing from and final outcome.**

In response to this question, please find attached Table A - Missing Person Investigations (Under Age 18), Local Authorities and Table B - Missing Person Investigations (Under Age 18), Minutes Missing, Local Authorities. Both these Tables are for the period, 01 January 2021 - 31 December 2022 (calendar years).

**2. Out of the ones who went missing after Jan 31 2022, how many of them involved use of buses in Scotland, and specifically use of free bus passes if the report is as detailed as that?**

**3. If that costs too much, can I have the details for just the missing children in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee in question 2?**

Having considered these questions in terms of the Act, 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 only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to read through each and every report of a missing person for the time period - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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.