

OFFICIAL

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1531
Date: 11 August 2022



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.

I'm looking to find out the following statistical information;-

- 1. Number of bodies washed-up in UK shores**
- 2. Statistical locations of washed-up bodies i.e 4x north east Scotland, 1x West coast Scotland, 8x English Channel etc**
- 3. Number of unnamed (John Doe) bodies washed up in UK shores and statistical ethnicity i.e 19x white British, 7x philipino etc**
- 4. Number of individuals lost at sea over the last 10 years (all circumstances)**
- 5. Number of individuals lost at sea per over the last 10 years (fishing sector only).**

In terms of Section 17 of the Act, I can confirm that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

By way of explanation, Police Scotland does not hold data in relation to UK shores. Police Scotland only hold data in relation to Scottish shores.

In order to be of assistance I can provide the information below. The information provided has been taken from Police Scotland's National Missing Person Database (NMPA).

I can advise that the number of bodies that have washed up on Scottish shores is 2. This does not include persons or body parts who have not been reported as missing in Scotland.

I can further advise that one of the bodies was found in the North of Scotland and the other in the South of Scotland. In both of the cases above the ethnicity of the persons involved could not be identified from the reports.

In the past 10 years 40 people have been reported missing from Scottish seas, additionally only 1 fisherman has been recorded as missing at sea.

OFFICIAL

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management 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.