| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1815  Responded to: 18th June 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## *For 2024:*

## *1.     How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*

## *a.     In residential properties/ land*

## *b.     In commercial properties/ land*

## *For 2023:*

## *1.     How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*

## *a.     In residential properties/ land*

## *b.     In commercial properties/ land*

## *For 2022:*

## *1.     How many instances of squatting reported to your police force..*

## *a.     In residential properties/ land*

## *b.     In commercial properties/ land*

Unfortunately, the information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

By way of explanation, Home Office Crime classifications and codes do not extend to Scotland. Crimes in Scotland are recorded in accordance with the [Scottish Government Justice Department (SGJD)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/user-guide-recorded-crime-statistics-scotland-3/documents/) offence classifications, however, there is no Scottish crime classification relevant to your request - i.e. there is no offence for “squatting” specifically.

To be of assistance, I can advise that you may find information publicly accessible on the Police Scotland website to be of interest. I can thus refer you to our crime statistics, which are available broken down by Multi-Member Ward areas, with the most recent figures due to be updated in the next few weeks:

[Crime data - Police Scotland](https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/)

In this instance, within the spreadsheet, there is a crime classification description that will be able to provide useful information: ‘lodging without consent of the owner’.

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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.