

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2076  
Date: 11 November 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 have a request for information for the past five years on (*the entire stretch of*) the South Deeside Road - also known as the B9077;**

### 1. Do you have precise figures on the number of accidents / incidents on the road?

I must first explain that a reportable collision is defined under Section 170 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and describes the legal responsibility on those drivers involved to report the matter to the police. Where those involved exchange personal details, there is no legal requirement to report a collision to the police and this applies particularly to non-injury collisions.

In those circumstances, where any such non-reportable road crashes may have occurred at the location (and where police were not made aware) the Section 17 notice would apply, as information not held.

On that basis I have considered your request for information and the number of recorded road traffic collisions and incidents on this road are provided in the tables below:

**Table 1: B9077 - Recorded Road Traffic Collisions, Injury by Severity:  
1st April 2017 to 31st March 2022**

Collision Severity	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Fatal	1	0	1	0	0
Serious	1	4	3	2	2
Slight	3	1	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.  
All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 19/10/2022.

1. Data excludes non-injury collisions as per standard operating procedure.
2. Specified areas have been selected using GIS Mapping.
3. On the 12th June 2019, CRaSH was implemented within D Division. On the 3rd July 2019, CRaSH was implemented across the other Police Divisions within Police Scotland. CRaSH replaced the existing procedures for recording Road Traffic Collisions.

Note - the data is subject to change and will be updated on the next extract of data from CRaSH on 3rd November 2022.

**Table 2: All Recorded Road Traffic Incidents, B9077, by Final Incident Code  
1st April 2017 to 31st March 2022**

Final Incident Code	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Road Traffic Collision	71	68	61	41	41
Road Traffic Matter	140	125	104	79	91
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>132</b>

All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information.

All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 19/10/2022.

1. The data was extracted using the incident's raised date and by using Disposal codes TR-41 (Road Traffic Collision) and TR-43 (Road Traffic Matter).

2. Data was extracted based on the incident's raised date and a selection of the named B9077, Aberdeen using GIS mapping.

**2. Any and all communications between police and other public bodies regarding the road?**

**3. The minutes of any meetings relating to the road?**

**4. Any information from all reports, correspondence or communications relating to the safety of the road?**

Questions 2, 3 & 4 have been answered together.

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.

Please note that Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and on that basis your request would breach the cost threshold.

To first explain, any such correspondence is not held in an easily retrievable format - for example, in a central correspondence file.

Moreover, as the terms of the request are wide ranging, the only way to ensure an accurate response would be to conduct a manual trawl of our databases to confirm which incidents, if any, contained any reference to correspondence or communications with another public body.

Furthermore, where the correspondence relates to certain file types we would have to retrieve those archives to establish the content / details of the information held.

Turning to the statistics provided at Q1 in the first instance, I would estimate that we would need to identify and examine over 820 Storm entries to first establish whether any related communications exist. Even using a conservative estimate of 10 minutes to check each

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file entry this equates to almost 140 hours of work, far exceeding the cost limitations of the Act above. Furthermore, it is likely a full check of all archived documents held by the service would add hundreds of additional hours to the time it would take to fully comply with the request.

In order to be of assistance, you may wish to consider reducing the scope of your request by limiting it to a very short time period and / or to a very specific set of circumstances which may allow it to be progressed.

You may wish to submit a similar request to Aberdeen-shire Council who may hold related information in terms of road safety for the B9077.

If you require further assistance or 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.