| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-1091  Responded to: 12th May 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Number of male suicides / attempted suicides attended to by your force between 1st January 2018 and 1st January 2023, split into age groups based on under 18s and over 18s if possible. If the date range exceeds the cost limit, please narrow its scope to 2019-2023, 2020-2023, 2021-2023, etc. until it fits the cost limit.

## If possible within the cost limit could you also provide number of male self-harm incidents attended to by your force between 1st January 2018 and 1st January 2023, split into age groups based on under 18s and over 18s if possible. If the date range exceeds the cost limit, please narrow its scope to 2019-2023, 2020-2023, 2021-2023, etc. until it fits the cost limit.

Prior to answering your request, you should be aware that National Records of Scotland publish information regarding the prevalence of suicide in Scotland. Information is available online, with a breakdown by gender and age groups:-

[National Records Scotland – Probable Suicides](https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/statistics-by-theme/vital-events/deaths/suicides)

Having considered your request in terms of the above 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, any such incidents reported to Police Scotland are classified on our incident recording system, STORM as ‘Suicide/ Attempt/ Self-Harm’. The category used will encompass reports of deaths thought to be from suicide (bearing in mind this is at a very early stage- pre-investigation) but also any attempted suicides and self-harm incidents.

The incident recording system however, does not have a facility whereby the gender or age of the individual can be easily extracted. Nor is it possible to carry out a search of the incident reports by gender or age.

As such, case by case assessment of all ‘Suicide/ Attempt/ Self-Harm’ incident reports, for the time period requested, would have to be carried out to establish the details of the person involved - 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.