

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0370
Date: 25 February 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.

Can you please tell me how many people were charged with drug-driving in 2020-21 and how many so far in the current financial year (2021-22)?

In response to this question, please see the following:

Number of Detected drug driving offences: Police Scotland
Financial year: 1st April 2020 to and inclusive of 31st January 2022

Crime Type	01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021	01/04/2021 to 31/01/2022
Driving motor vehicle while unfit through drink or drugs	775	534
In charge of motor vehicle while unfit through drink or drugs	118	82
Driving motor vehicle while under influence of controlled drug above prescribed limit	986	1206
In charge of motor vehicle while under influence of controlled drug above prescribed limit	68	79

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 17/2/2022.

Can you please break down for each year the drugs which were involved (eg 200 cases – cocaine, 100 cases ecstasy).

Having considered question 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.

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By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine each and every one of the reports in the above table to establish which named controlled substances were found to be a factor. You should also note that for the most recent periods, it will be likely that forensic testing will be ongoing. As such given the numbers involved this is an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee on foidundee@scotland.police.uk 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.pnn.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.

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