

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1139
Date: 17 June 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 tell me how many people attending football matches in Scotland have been arrested or referred to police for cocaine possession.

Can I have figures for past two years please 2020 - 2021 – 2022 - and a breakdown of grounds and numbers.

Age and sex too if possible.

In accordance with Sections 12(1) (Excessive cost of compliance) and 16(4) (Refusal of request) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act), this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

By way of explanation, to provide this information, we would have to physically examine all drugs crimes and/or complete a bespoke search on each stadium and the surrounding area. Thousands of individual crimes would have to be examined and to carry out such a task.

If I was to use the example that it took 5 minutes to check each incident for possession of drugs in 2021/2022 (23,747), then calculations show for this period it would take approximately 1,978 hours, and would cost approximately £29,683 to carry out this task. This is in excess of the £600 prescribed by the Scottish Ministers under the Act.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management – Glasgow at foi@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.

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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.