

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1643
Date: 19 August 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 would like to request the following information for the areas of Glasgow and Edinburgh please;

- 1. How many sex crimes where the perpetrator was under 18 at the time of the incident were reported each year from 2012 until most recent records?**
- 2. How many arrests were made for serious sexual offences suspected to be committed by children under the age of 18 each year, broken down into years from 2012 - 2022?**
- 3. How many serious sexual offences were committed by youths under 16 in same time frame?**
- 4. How many youths under 18 were arrested under suspicion of rape from 2012-2022?**
- 5. What was the youngest perpetrator arrest for serious sexual assault?**

Having considered these questions 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.

By way of explanation, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to examine each and every crime report of detected sexual crimes to establish the age of the accused.

To illustrate the volume of reports that would be involved, I can advise you that for the financial year 2021/22 in Edinburgh City Division there were 1287 sexual crimes recorded and 2286 in Greater Glasgow. As such this is an exercise which would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

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You can access our published crime statistics via: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

- 6. How many offences from the above criteria ended up in a conviction?**
- 7. How many of those found guilty, how many ended up with a custodial sentence?**

Police Scotland does not hold conviction information. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) which holds conviction information for Scotland. A request can be submitted to COPFS via email using the following address foi@copfs.gsi.gov.uk

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at 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.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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