

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0735
Date: 14th April 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 stats on crimes with a sexual element perpetrated against 12-18 year olds who are gay males (homosexual) specifically over the past 3 years. I wonder if this can include if any of these had anything to do with the adult hookup app 'Grindr'?

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, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby the age and sexuality of the complainer, or involvement of 'Grindr' can be easily extracted.

There is also no facility available which would allow for a search to be carried out based on these details.

The only way to establish these details would be to carry out case by case assessment of all sexual offences, and thereafter determine whether they were relevant to your request.

As illustrated by our [published crime statistics](#), this would involve individually examining thousands of crime reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Please be advised that we could provide data on sexual *hate crimes* where the factor was homophobia, but this would not capture crimes against individuals who just happened to be gay.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, quoting the reference number given.

OFFICIAL

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.