Our Ref:
 IM-FOI-2022-0264

 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.

Re: Hate crime numbers on p72 of this report: https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/oifbto5z/q2-performance-report-ppc.pdf

The figures given in the above report state there were 43 hate crimes with a transgender aggravator in 2020/21 and 76 in 2021/22.

Could you please clarify if these figures are for reports made to the police, or for charges of crimes?

An <u>article</u> in the Times seemed clear they were for reported offences, and the 76 does seem in line with the data for that given in this FOI: <u>https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/2021/june/21-1100-c19-crime-stats-hate-race-religion-victim-asian-inc-covid-related-subset/</u>

However, the 43 figure tallies with the data for charges, as given on p16 of this document:

https://www.copfs.gov.uk/images/Documents/Statistics/Hate%20Crime%20in%20Sc otland%202020-21/Hate%20Crime%20in%20Scotland%202020-21.pdf

In response to your question the figures provided within the quarterly performance report are recorded crimes from Police Scotland's iVPD database. This does not necessary mean that they are solely "reports" of crime or that the perpetrator has been charged with an offence. A "recorded crime" is recorded once it has been established by police that criminal activity has taken place.

It is worthy of note, that following the published news article that you have cited above, Police Scotland contacted the publisher regarding concerns of inaccuracies within the media report. The publisher then printed a correction and issued an apology.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management 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 <u>online</u>, by email to <u>enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info</u> 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 <u>Disclosure Log</u> in seven days' time.



