| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-1462  Responded to: 27th May 2025 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## Please can you provide the following information:

## 1) The number of unlicensed music events (illegal raves) that police have been called to in the past five calendar years (2019-2024).

## 2) The number of individuals arrested for attending or hosting an unlicensed music event in the past five years

## 3) The number of individuals who have been fined for attending or hosting an unlicensed music event in the past five years, and the total sum that has been collected in fines for that period.

## 4) The age of the youngest person arrested or fined at an unlicensed music event each year. Please specify if they were arrested or fined.

## 5) The number of under 18s recorded as being at an unlicensed music event each year.

## Please break down the figures by calendar year.

Unfortunately, I regret to inform you that I estimate it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, I can advise that whilst incidents are categorised, there is no specific category which relates to “illegal raves” nor “unlicensed music events”; there are no relevant markers available on the Police Scotland incident recording systems which would allow for the automatic retrieval of this level of information. In this instance, any potentially relevant incidents would be recorded under one of a series of more general categories – noise, disturbance etc.​

Therefore, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to manually examine every incident report from January 1st, 2019, onwards to assess their relevancy under the scope of an “unlicensed music event”. Unfortunately, given the volume of reports that would be required to be read through for that five-year period, this exercise would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.