| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-2199Responded to: 11th August 2025 |
| --- | --- |

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

## The number of recorded residential burglaries in your police force area where a key was used to gain entry to the property, for the following time periods: 1st January 2024 to 1st July 2024, 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024, and 1st January 2025 to 1st July 2025.

## The number of recorded residential burglaries in your police force area that involved properties with home security systems installed — for example, video doorbells such as Ring, or CCTV — for the following time periods: 1st January 2024 to 1st July 2024, 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024, and 1st January 2025 to 1st July 2025.

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.

Firstly, it is important to note that in Scotland the relevant crime classification used to describe “residential burglaries” would be ‘theft by housebreaking’.

By way of explanation, I can advise that it is not possible to carry out a search of theft crime reports based on the means of entry (“key”), nor based on the presence of any home security systems installations (“video doorbells” or “CCTV”); there are no relevant markers available on the Police Scotland crime recording systems which would allow for the automatic retrieval of this level of information.

Therefore, the only way to provide an accurate and consistent response to your request would be to manually review each crime report of a ‘theft by housebreaking’ offence from January 1st, 2024, onwards case-by-case to ascertain whether a key specifically was used to enter the house and/ or whether any security systems were fitted on the outside of the house at the time of the incident.

Unfortunately, given the volume of reports that would be required to be read through for that nearly two-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 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 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.