

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-1203  
Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 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.

**Please could you provide me with the number of crimes reported that include the word "Grindr" or "Grinder" AND involve a person under the age of 18.**

**Please provide this information broken down into categories - e.g., rape, harassment, blackmail, etc. - and for the following years only:**

**2019**

**2020**

**2021**

**2022 (Jan 1 - May 31)**

**To clarify, by "involve" a person under the age of 18, I am referring here to the victim of the reported crime.**

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 which allows us to search crime reports on the basis of presence of specific words or phrases.

The crime recording systems also have facility whereby the age of the individuals involved can be easily extracted.

As such, the only way to establish whether the words 'Grindr' or 'Grinder' were mentioned within a crime report, and to establish whether the persons involved were under 18 years of age, would be to carry out case by case assessment of all crime reports for the time period requested.

## OFFICIAL

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

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, 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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalrnarnock, 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](mailto: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.