| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 24-0989Responded to: 18 April 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**I am writing to you to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.**

**To avoid any confusion just let me know there is no need to use the usual standard cut and paste reply saying your search system use a 3-word search that is claimed it is unable to search for words like asylum seekers or refugees and a manual search would be 2.5 working days, costing £450, which exceeds your cost limit.**

**So, I will tell you how to avoid this.**

**As you are made fully aware of every asylum/refugee hotel within your forces area, all that is needed is to enter the hotels details, this will give you the number of times your force has attended them and for what offences.**

**As these hotels are used solely for asylum seekers/refugees this will give you the number of offences committed by asylum seekers/refugees.**

**You also have a legal requirement to adhere to the equalities act 2000, discrimination laws, ECHR laws, and the records of offences committed by British citizens and offences committed asylum seekers/refugees will be recorded/held to the same accessible standard.**

**Please send me the following information**

**1/ what is the number of offences committed by asylum seekers/refugees in the last 12 months from today's date 5th April 2024.**

**2/ what is the breakdown of these offences committed by asylum seekers/refugees by the grouping of type of offence over this 12 month period from today's date 5th April 2024.**

**You will find other forces hold this information for public access.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that 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, there are no markers etc on our systems that would indicate that the accused was an asylum seeker/ refugee at the time of the offence. ​Your comments as regards the accommodation details are noted but even assuming a list of locations was available, offences could be committed by asylum seekers away from their temporary address. Similarly, offences could be committed at these locations by individuals who are not asylum seekers. It is our assessment therefore that such an approach would not answer the questions posed.

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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/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.