| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 25-0038Responded to: 31 January 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I am writing to formally request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, concerning crime statistics within your police force area.

## In accordance with the aforementioned Act, I hereby request the disclosure of the following data:

## Crime Reporting and Outcomes:

## For each calendar year commencing with 2014, please provide an itemized breakdown of the following:

## The aggregate number of reported criminal offenses.

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available:

[Recorded crime in Scotland - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/collections/recorded-crime-in-scotland/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

## Of the aforementioned reported offenses, the number subjected to formal investigation.

All crimes and offences recorded in Scotland are investigated, in accordance with the   [Scottish Crime Recording Standard (PDF)](https://www.scotland.police.uk/spa-media/p0nfjj2c/scottish-crime-recording-standard-crime-recording-and-counting-rules-april-2021.pdf?view=Standard)

## Of the offenses investigated, the number subsequently referred to the Crown Prosecution Service for consideration of charges.

## Of the offenses referred for prosecution, the number that culminated in a conviction in a court of law.

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act applies.

To explain, Police Scotland do not refer cases to the Crown Prosecution Service.

The data provided in response to your first question includes data regarding detected crimes. Detected crimes are those where an accused has been identified and there exists a sufficiency of evidence under Scots Law to justify consideration of criminal proceedings.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) and/ or the Scottish Courts Service.

## Offense Categorization and Suspect Demographics:

## For the data furnished in response to question 1, please provide a further disaggregation by:

## Statutory categorization of the offense (e.g., offenses against the person, offenses against property, etc.).

The information sought is held by Police Scotland, but I am refusing to provide it in terms of section 16(1) of the Act on the basis that the section 25(1) exemption applies:

“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it […] is exempt information”.

The information sought is publicly available:

[Recorded crime in Scotland - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/collections/recorded-crime-in-scotland/)

## Recorded ethnicity/race of the suspected perpetrator(s).

## Age range of the suspected perpetrator(s).

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request.

To provide this would require us to look through every incident to identify the data requested. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

## Case Closure Rates:

## Please specify the proportion of reported offenses that are closed without the filing of formal charges.

## Further, please provide a breakdown of the principal reasons for such closures (e.g., insufficiency of evidence, withdrawal of complaint by the aggrieved party).

The information sought is not held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

To explain, crimes in Scotland are designated as recorded/detected. Police Scotland do not use the home office outcome classifications which you refer to.

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.