

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2565
Date: 16th December 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.

How many FOI requests from the media have been exempted - ie sourcing info would be too costly etc.

In the past two years.

First of all, I would stress that there is no obligation on applicants to indicate whether or not they are a journalist/ media source.

Where this is clear from the request email however, the request is recorded on our system as being from a media source.

In 2022 to date, there are 484 closed requests from a media source.

As you will be aware, each request can include multiple questions, each of which can attract a different response.

98 of the requests were refused in full on the grounds of excess cost alone.

A further 34 of the requests were refused in full on the grounds of excess cost **and** other reasons - such as the information being 'not held', being refused in terms of various exemptions etc.

In 2021 there were 554 requests from a media source.

Again, each request can include multiple questions, each of which can attract a different response.

116 of the requests were refused in full on the grounds of excess cost alone.

A further 32 of the requests were refused in full on the grounds of excess cost **and** other reasons - such as the information being 'not held', being refused in terms of various exemptions etc.

Data regarding Police Scotland's FOI performance and use of provisions/ exemptions more generally can be found on the [OSIC website](#).

OFFICIAL

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management 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 or by post to Information Management (Disclosure), Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, 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 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.