| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-0681Responded to: 03 April 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**The number of sex offenders sentenced in Scotland who spent the entirety (or majority) of their time on the sex offenders registry during covid 19 restrictions (approx. 2020-2022). I would also like to know what proportion of overall sex offenders, who plead guilty or were found guilty, spent the entirety (or majority) of their time on the sex offenders registry during covid 19 restrictions (approx 2020-2022).**

**It would be appreciated if you could provide the overall figures and also, a comparison of figures by offence type and whether offences were against children (e.g. child pornography) or adults (e.g. sexual coercion) or both.**

Having considered your request in terms of the 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, 2358 potentially relevant records were identified. To provide an accurate response to your request, would require the examination of ViSOR (Violent & Sex Offender Register) records for each identified offender - an exercise which I estimate 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](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.