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Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2045  
Date: 17 October 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.

**I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 For 2019;**

**A) The number of confirmed crimes reported to you that are not investigated further than the 'investigative assessment' (which assesses the vulnerability of the victim, severity of the offence likelihood it can be solved and the most effective use of resources) within 24 hours of being reported.**

**If your force doesn't carry out investigative assessments or cannot break the information down this way, please provide me with the number of confirmed crimes that do not qualify for further investigation after your forces initial screening/ investigative process within 24 hours of being reported and were not re opened at any stage.**

**Please break this information down by offence group as per the count offence classification index and only provide data for unresolved crimes. ie not crimes that were closed after 24 hours because a charge was brought.**

Crimes in Scotland do not undergo an investigative assessment or crime screening process and are recorded in accordance with the [Scottish Crime Recording Standard](#), which sets out crime recording standards and counting rules, as set by the Scottish Government.

As such, in terms of section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland.

**B) Please also provide me with the total number of confirmed crimes reported to your force, again broken down by offence group.**

**C) Please also provide me with the number of confirmed crimes that resulted in a charge, again broken down by offence group.**

Information regarding recorded and detected crimes is publicly available on the [Police Scotland website](#).

As such, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 requires Police Scotland

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when refusing to provide such information because it is exempt, to provide you with a notice which:

- (a) states that it holds the information,
- (b) states that it is claiming an exemption,
- (c) specifies the exemption in question and
- (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable is set out at Section 25(1) of the Act - information otherwise accessible:

*“Information which the applicant can reasonably obtain other than by requesting it under Section 1(1) is exempt information”*

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](mailto: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](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.