

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-2637
Date: 29 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.

I came across this information from the Scottish Parliament website:
<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-12243>

It says that the source of the data is Police Scotland's Missing Person's Database, extracted from your internal systems and that Police Scotland provided the information split by local authority area before it was aggregated into NHS Health Board Areas by Scottish Government Statisticians.

Please could you provide us with the data as it was initially broken down – namely by local authority area - in the form of an Excel or .csv file. It should include all the information listed in the above link; i.e the number of missing person investigations related to a person going missing from the NHS for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, broken down by all local authority areas in Scotland.

In response to your request:

Missing Person Investigations, 'Missing From The NHS', Police Scotland, by Local Authority. 1st April 2019 - 31st October 2022

	Local Authority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Age Category	Aberdeen City Council	0	1	3	5
UNDER 18	Argyll and Bute Council	0	0	1	1
	Clackmannanshire Council	0	0	1	0
	Dumfries and Galloway Council	0	0	3	2
	Dundee City Council	1	3	4	1
	East Ayrshire Council	0	3	0	1
	Edinburgh City Council	2	14	13	13
	Falkirk Council	1	4	4	1
	Fife Council	0	1	10	7
	Glasgow City Council	5	8	9	15
	Highland Council	3	6	7	3
	Inverclyde Council	0	0	1	0
	Midlothian Council	0	0	0	1

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	North Ayrshire Council	0	1	0	1
	North Lanarkshire Council	7	4	11	2
	Renfrewshire Council	0	1	1	0
	Scottish Borders Council	0	2	7	1
	Shetland Islands Council	2	0	0	0
	South Ayrshire Council	0	1	1	1
	South Lanarkshire Council	1	5	2	3
	Stirling Council	0	1	0	0
	West Lothian Council	2	3	4	4
	Total	24	58	82	62

	Local Authority	2019	2020	2021	2022
Age Category 18 AND OVER	Aberdeen City Council	94	82	88	113
	Aberdeenshire Council	3	2	2	1
	Angus Council	0	1	3	1
	Argyll and Bute Council	3	2	7	7
	Clackmannanshire Council	0	2	1	1
	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council)	0	0	2	1
	Dumfries and Galloway Council	10	4	31	16
	Dundee City Council	36	91	66	54
	East Ayrshire Council	12	15	7	19
	East Dunbartonshire Council	1	4	0	0
	East Lothian Council	4	2	1	0
	East Renfrewshire Council	2	0	1	1
	Edinburgh City Council	158	206	251	230
	Falkirk Council	41	55	55	81
	Fife Council	101	81	105	102
	Glasgow City Council	293	311	423	435
	Highland Council	61	33	40	28
	Inverclyde Council	8	5	8	18
	Midlothian Council	3	2	5	3
	Moray Council	12	8	14	26
	North Ayrshire Council	11	37	18	17
	North Lanarkshire Council	88	95	94	88
	Orkney Islands Council	1	0	1	2
	Perth and Kinross Council	16	38	21	24
	Renfrewshire Council	11	14	20	23
	Scottish Borders Council	33	52	55	28
	Shetland Islands Council	1	0	0	4
	South Ayrshire Council	6	7	4	6
	South Lanarkshire Council	52	66	63	97
	Stirling Council	2	3	2	4
	West Dunbartonshire Council	1	1	7	4
	West Lothian Council	36	40	57	52
		Total	1100	1259	1452

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All statistics are provisional and should be treated as management information. All data have been extracted from Police Scotland internal systems and are correct as at 1st November 2022.

The data was extracted using the Date Reported Missing. All Divisions across Police Scotland started using the Missing Persons Database for recording Missing Person Investigations within April 2019.

The age of the missing person is based on the age recorded within the database. This is the age recorded when the nominal first went missing, and not the date reported missing.

The same person can appear be more than once in the count of missing person investigations.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee at foidundee@scotland.police.uk 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, Dalarnock, 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.

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