| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 25-0984  Responded to: 14 April 2025 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

**We would be grateful if you could provide this information for the preceding five years.**

**We request information as to the number of officers who have set off a speed camera whilst on duty and who have been granted an exemption.**

In accordance with our record retention policies, offence records prior to 2022 are no longer held by Police Scotland and section 17 of the Act therefore applies.

In relation to the number of officers who have set off a speed camera, unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, I am unable to differentiate between a Police Officer or member of Police Staff setting off the speed camera.

I can, however, provide you with data relating to police vehicles, where driven by either a police officer or a member of police staff. This could be from any police force, but the number of non-Police Scotland vehicles will be small. Likewise, the number of Police Staff will be smaller than the number of police officers. To differentiate would require a manual review of all records. As such, this is an exercise which would exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

*Table 1: Police Exemptions Applied – 2022, 2023 and 2024*

| **Year** | **Police Exemption Applied** |
| --- | --- |
| 2022 | 5,049 |
| 2023 | 5,683 |
| 2024 | 6,939 |

This data is taken from a live system which is subject to change and correct as of 24/03/2025.

**We also seek details as to the number of officers who set off a speed camera on duty and applied for an exemption but had that exemption refused.**

Unfortunately, I estimate that it would cost well in excess of the current FOI cost threshold of £600 to process your request. I am therefore refusing to provide the information sought in terms of section 12(1) of the Act - Excessive Cost of Compliance.

By way of explanation, where an exemption has been applied for but refused, this is not recorded anywhere other than in the exemption paperwork. To provide the information sought would require a manual review of all safety camera activations.

**Please provide details of the range of speeds at which officers were travelling when they were granted exemptions.**

**Further, please confirm how many officers were granted exemptions for travelling in excess of the following speeds:**

**30mph; 40mph; 50mph; 60mph; 70mph; 80mph; 90mph; 100mph; 110mph; 120mph; 130mph and 140mph.**

The information sought in relation to speed ranges between 30-49 mph 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 following exemptions apply:

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) - Law Enforcement**

Disclosure would give a clear indication as to the operation of the camera system, which would substantially prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders.

**Section 39(1) - Health, Safety and the Environment**

Disclosure of detection thresholds would encourage drivers to speed and commit offences, thereby endangering other road users and pedestrians and rendering the safety camera ineffective as a road safety measure.

**Public Interest Test**

It could be argued that public awareness and safety camera partnership accountability would favour disclosure.

That said, the application of the exemptions listed above, the efficient/effective conduct of Police Scotland and overall public safety favour nondisclosure of the information.

On balance it is considered that the public interest in disclosing the detection thresholds is outweighed by the potential consequences to law enforcement and the impact such a release would have on road safety measures.

To be of assistance, I can categorise the speed driven when the speed camera was triggered.

Please note, the table below only specifies the speed travelling at the time of the trigger and makes no reference to which speed threshold was breached.

*Table: Speed travelling and exemptions granted – 2022-2024*

| **Speed** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 30-49 mph | 2,614 | 2,859 | 3,536 |
| 50-59 mph | 1,183 | 1,154 | 1,577 |
| 60-69 mph | 286 | 293 | 402 |
| 70-79 mph | 246 | 291 | 251 |
| 80-89 mph | 362 | 539 | 508 |
| 90-99 mph | 204 | 301 | 353 |
| 100-109 mph | 86 | 150 | 159 |
| 110-119 mph | 47 | 61 | 96 |
| 120-129 mph | 16 | 28 | 46 |
| 130-139 mph | 4 | 6 | 8 |
| 140 – 149 mph | 1 | 1 | 3 |

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](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) 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](https://www.foi.scot/appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@foi.scot) 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.