

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0820
Date: 28 April 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.

- 1. Can you confirm the number of drug offences recorded in schools? Please give a breakdown for the following years, i) 2020, ii) 2021, iii) 2022 to the present date?**
- 2. Can you give details in each case of the drug involved?**

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.

As explained to you previously (22-0678), crimes are recorded by offence classification using Scottish Government Justice Department crime classification codes rather than by type of business. As a result, the only way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to read through each and every crime report in relation to misuse of drugs offences to establish if the type of premises is detailed and then further examine in order to answer the specific details of your questions. Given the thousands of reports that would have to be researched this is an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

To illustrate, published figures shows that at Q4 for the 2020/21 financial year, there were 30,344 recorded crimes of Possession of Drugs. Unfortunately, the only way to access the specific location and what type of drug involved is via each individual crime report.

You can access our published crime statistics via the following link: [How we are performing - Police Scotland](#)

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management - Dundee on foidundee@scotland.police.uk quoting the reference number given.

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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.

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