

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2021-2842
Date: 10th January 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 requesting the following, all separated by year, from the years 2011 - 2021:

1.A. The number of cases of reports of sexual assault that took place in Scotland. If you require crime codes, please refer to codes 16000, 16001, 16002, 16003, 16004, 16005, 16006, 16007, 16008.

The tables at the end of this document provides the number of recorded and detected specified Group 2 crimes referred to above, from 1st January 2011 – 20th December 2021.

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 29th December 2021.

1.B. The number of cases of reports of sexual assault that led to a conviction. If you require crime codes, please refer to codes 16000, 16001, 16002, 16003, 16004, 16005, 16006, 16007, 16008.

Police Scotland does not hold conviction information. 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.

You may wish to contact the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscals Service (COPFS) which holds conviction information for Scotland. A request can be submitted to COPFS via email using the following address foi@copfs.gsi.gov.uk

Please note that the Scottish Government publish statistics in relation to criminal proceedings in Scotland, which may be of some interest to you:-

<https://www.gov.scot/collections/criminal-proceedings-in-scotland/>

1.C. The number of cases of reports of sexual assault where complaints were dropped within one month. If you require crime codes, please refer to codes 16000, 16001, 16002, 16003, 16004, 16005, 16006, 16007, 16008.

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1.D. The number of cases of reports of sexual assault where complaints were dropped within one year. If you require crime codes, please refer to codes 16000, 16001, 16002, 16003, 16004, 16005, 16006, 16007, 16008.

In response to these questions, 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, the crime recording systems used by Police Scotland have no facility whereby this level of information can be automatically retrieved.

The only possible way to provide an accurate response to your request would be to individually examine each relevant crime report to establish whether the victim disengaged with the investigation process.

As illustrated by the table at the end of this document, this would involve case by case assessment of thousands of crime reports - an exercise which I estimate would far exceed the cost limit set out in the Fees Regulations.

Should you require any further assistance please contact Information Management Dundee, 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.pnn.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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Table 1: Recorded Specified Group 2 Crimes
Period: 1st January 2011 – 20th December 2021

Crime	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sexual Assault (common law, pre SOSA 2009)	313	296	386	353	381	348	389	355	320	232	184
Sex. Assault by penetration – M (16+)	25	12	14	8	14	15	21	17	17	20	20
Sex. Assault by penetration – F (16+)	127	170	180	166	213	213	269	326	354	347	385
Sex. Assault by penetration – M (13-15)	3	2	3	4	3	2	2	3	4	3	2
Sex. Assault by penetration – F (13-15)	23	42	41	45	57	71	84	106	100	79	108
Sexual Assault – M (16+)	94	78	94	93	141	126	143	193	257	170	207
Sexual Assault – F (16+)	892	820	983	1057	1198	1236	1457	1705	1565	1358	1665
Sexual Assault – M (13-15)	27	15	37	27	44	40	58	68	70	44	70
Sexual Assault – F (13-15)	188	220	288	284	346	306	354	496	445	486	519
Total	1692	1655	2026	2037	2397	2357	2777	3269	3132	2739	3160

Table 2: Detected Specified Group 2 Crimes
 Period: 1st January 2011 – 20th December 2021

Crime	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sexual Assault (common law, pre SOSA 2009)	227	189	259	299	275	213	239	242	179	152	136
Sex. Assault by penetration – M (16+)	14	8	10	8	7	5	6	8	7	9	8
Sex. Assault by penetration – F (16+)	72	103	107	134	135	123	136	147	152	181	163
Sex. Assault by penetration – M (13-15)	3	1	1	3	3	1	1	0	3	1	3
Sex. Assault by penetration – F (13-15)	12	25	31	31	38	43	45	62	48	49	53
Sexual Assault – M (16+)	50	47	43	52	92	70	79	82	147	94	95
Sexual Assault – F (16+)	443	481	615	718	805	729	834	933	826	814	921
Sexual Assault – M (13-15)	15	8	25	16	32	23	33	36	36	33	43
Sexual Assault – F (13-15)	123	141	209	218	249	222	239	301	286	303	300
Total	959	1003	1300	1479	1636	1429	1612	1811	1684	1636	1722