

**OFFICIAL**

Our Ref: IM-FOI-2022-0170  
Date: 24 February 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 understand that Police Scotland do not record crime reports as being open/closed. Do Police Scotland record the date each crime was reported and the date that they were detected/cleared-up?**

**If so, for each detected crime/offence could you please provide:**

- **Council Name**
- **Multi-Member Ward Name**
- **SCJS Crime and Offence Group Number**
- **SCJS Top 35 Category Number**
- **SCJS Crime Code Number**
- **Date of Crime Report**
- **Date of Crime Detection**

**The “SCJS Top 35 Category Number” refers to which of the 35 most common crime categories a given crime record belongs to.**

**Is it possible to also include:**

- **The time which the reported crime/offence took place.**
- **The date which the reported crime/offence took place.**

**If the multi member ward name is not available, is there any other similar location data currently available which could be included? If so please include this.**

In response to your request, 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.

## OFFICIAL

By way of explanation, multi-member ward (MMW) information cannot be provided, in order to accurately assess the MMW data each recorded crime would need to be manually examined to determine which MMW the offence took place within. Thousands of records have been identified as part of your request. I estimate that it would take approximately 2 minutes to examine a single record, this would greatly exceed the cost and time threshold set out within the Act.

To be of assistance, police beat codes have been provided for location purposes. These broadly align with MMW but there are some differences.

In regards to the time an offence took place, Police Scotland does not record the specific time of an offence but rather that time from and time to an offence may have taken place. I must therefore advise that the time an offence actually took place is not held. As such, in terms of Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, this represents a notice that the information requested is not held by Police Scotland.

In reference to your question regarding SCJS Top 35 Category Number, please be advised in terms of Section 17 of the Act, I can confirm that the information you seek is not held by Police Scotland. Police Scotland does not record crime in a ranked format.

For all other information please see the attached documents.

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, Dalrnarnock, 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.