| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1707Responded to: 19 July 2023 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## How many Pedlar Licences were issued in Edinburgh and Lothian area from 1st January 2023 to 31 May 2023

During the period specified, three Pedlar’s Certificates were issued by Edinburgh Division.

## How many incidences of enforcement action against pedlars were recorded in Edinburgh from 1st May 2023 to 31st May 2023

During the period specified, there were no crimes recorded in Edinburgh Division under the terms of the Pedlars Act 1871, or Section 7 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (trading without a licence).

During the recent Murrayfield Stadium concerts (Beyonce, Harry Styles x 2, Bruce Springsteen), all of which were staged within the specified time period, 18 persons trading under UK (Police) issued Pedlar Certificates were engaged with by Police and City of Edinburgh Council officials and given advice on the correct terms of trade and trading principles as laid out in the Pedlars Act 1871.

Verbal warnings were given to those not adhering to the advice previously given (by police and council officials) throughout these events.

## The reasons for enforcement action

Enforcement action took place to ensure conditions of the Pedlar Certificate were being adhered to, to minimise risk to criminality, mitigate any risk to public safety and detect offences unrelated to the Pedlars Act 1871.

## How many checks to ensure that the correct licence was held were performed by Police Scotland on people selling merchandise in the vicinity of Murrayfield Stadium from 1st May to 31st May 2023?

In response to this question, 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.

Currently there is no national database which records persons that have been issued with a UK Pedlar Certificate. Visual checks of Pedlar Certificates were carried out by Police officers working at the Murrayfield events and details noted of some of those trading. Any relevant information is passed to the issuing Police Constabulary as deemed appropriate, proportionate, and necessary.

It is important to note that on the days of the events, the immediate priority for officers was maximising crowd and staff safety, safe crowd management, mitigating risk of crime and injury to persons, and the safe entry and dispersal of over 50,000/60,000 people at each of the events.

To identify specifically how many checks took place at these events a manual assessment of officer notebooks would need to take place to determine if any information was held.

Due to the number of officers involved, to manually assess officer notebooks to determine if any information was held is an undertaking that would exceed the cost threshold set out within the Act.

Police Scotland have assessed that the £600 cost limit within the Act equates to 40 hours of work and so this part of your request would breach the cost threshold.

Whilst I would normally suggest a way you could revise your question to provide data, due to the way in which data is recorded, I do not believe there is a way this question can be answered within cost in its current form.

I would also advise that had it been possible to complete your request within the cost limit of the Act, due to competing priorities, checks regarding appropriately operating pedlars may not be noted within a notebook meaning even if a manual assessment was undertaken the information may be inaccurate.

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 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](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by email 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.